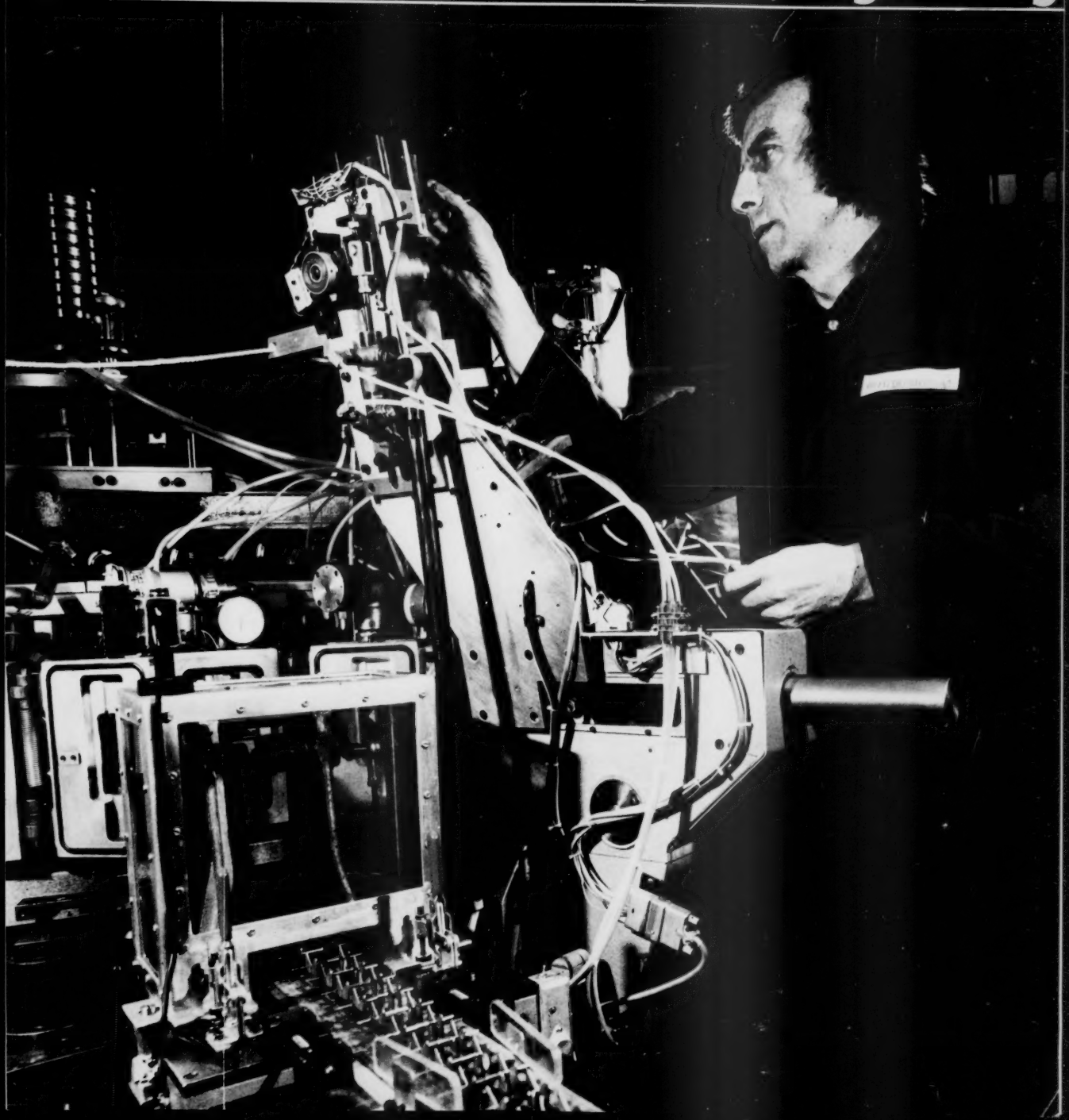
Trade and Industry

22 July 1977 Every Friday 35p

Counter-inflation policy Technology news
Export successes European regional fund
Statistics: trade, wholesale prices, engineering



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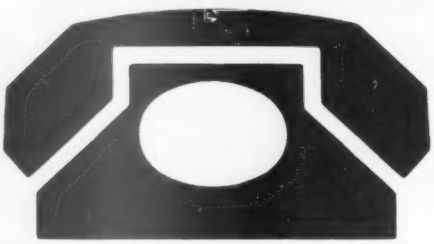
Inquiries which concern the countries of more than one sub-section (excluding inquiries involving only EEC countries) should be made to OTAR's co-ordination sub-section on 01-248 5757 extension 452 or 454.

For information on specific countries, phone the number and extension given below



Revised edition
Note regrouping of responsibilities

01-248 5757

extension

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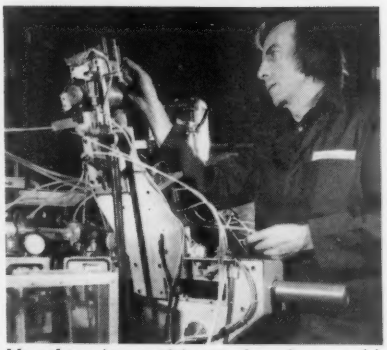
Trade and Industry

22 July 1977

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Manufacturing reed inserts for relays used in the telecommunications industry, at the Harlow factory of the ITT Components group. The factory's output is included in monthly statistics for the engineering industry (page 146). Picture by John Lawrence Photography Ltd, London SE1.

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Trade and Industry this week

HOME

Aid for product and process development

Development of new products and processes in manufacturing industry is to be supported by a scheme introduced by the government. More cash is to be made available, also, for two existing schemes – the ferrous foundry scheme and the machine tool scheme.

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, announcing details of the new scheme in parliament on 18 July, said the product and process development scheme, which was now open for applications, consolidated and extended the support available under the Science and Technology Act 1965 for the development of new products and processes by manufacturing industry. £20 million was being made available for the scheme in the first instance. Assistance would be available to firms for development costs from the design stage up to the point of commercial production. The emphasis would be on bringing new products and processes to the market.

Projects from any sector of manufacturing industry, he explained, would be eligible for consideration, though the main thrust of the scheme would be towards mechanical and electrical engineering. Assistance would be given on a selective basis; applications would be considered in their industrial context and against the aims of the government's industrial strategy. Assistance would normally take the form of a grant of up to 25 per cent of qualifying costs or, as an alternative, a shared cost contract where the government would provide up to 50 per cent of qualifying costs in return for a levy on commercial sales. Pre-production order support would also be available under the scheme.

Mr Varley said that the criteria for assistance under the product and process development scheme would include: the project or programme must be likely to be successful and to contribute significantly to strengthening the company's capability; the project or programme would not go ahead within a reasonable time scale without the assistance; and the project or programme would normally be for not less than £25,000 or more than £1 million.

Although the ferrous foundry scheme was now closed, the response has been such that a substantial number of applications were still being assessed. To enable this major piece of industrial modernisation in a key sector to continue an additional £40 million would be allocated to the scheme to bring the total allocation up to £80 million. After a slow start, the machine tool scheme is turning out to be an effective incentive to investment in another important sector of the economy. In order to help the machine tool sector carry through its overall modernisation programme, an additional £10 million would be allocated to the machine tool scheme thereby increasing the total allocation to £30 million.

Post Office review

Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, announced on Wednesday the publication of the report* of the Post Office Review Committee. Comments on the report were invited, said Mr Kaufman, and the government proposed to publish its conclusions in a white paper after appropriate consultations had taken place.

A major proposal of the committee is for the creation of a single council on Post Office and telecommunications affairs which would not be a managing body but is seen as a means of providing the secretary of state with strong, independent and well-informed advice in as open a manner as possible across the whole range of activities covered by the existing Post Office. The council would contain the chairman and one other representative of the Post Office Users National Council but would otherwise not contain representatives of Post Office employees or management or of government departments or any other special interest groups. These would all make their views known to the council as and when invited to do so. The committee recommends that for management purposes the postal and telecommunications sides of the Post Office should be separated. There would instead be two new public authorities, one of which would retain the title 'the Post Office' and would comprise the present postal business together with giro and remittance services as a subsidiary business with separate accounts, whilst the second authority, which would be known as 'the telecommunications authority', would comprise the present telecommunications business together with the data processing service (including the National Data Processing Service) also as a subsidiary business with separate accounts.

Other important recommendations of the committee concern the efficiency and productivity of the Post Office; its pricing and marketing policies; customer relations; management information; the future of the mail services and of post office counter services; the development of the next generation of telephone switching equipment; the telecommunications monopoly and the supply of subscribers' apparatus; staff relations; management style; Giro; the telegram service; Post Office finances and the Post Office Staff Superannuation.

Mr Kaufman said that the govern-ment wished to provide a full opportunity for consideration of the issues raised in the report, both for parliament and in the country as a whole. Those with a major interest were invited to comment but the government would also welcome comments from anyone who had a contribution to make. These were to be addressed to Miss S. P. M. Fisher, Department of Industry, Posts and Telecommunications Division, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UA and should reach her not later than 1 December 1977.

* Report of the Post Office Review Committee, July 1977 (Cmnd 6850).

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Assistance interest rates increased

Maximum rate of interest relief grant and interest rates for loans under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 were increased with effect from 18 July. The rate of interest relief grant available in those cases where it would be appropriate to allow the equivalent of an interest free period on a Department of Industry loan, but where firms obtain their finance from other sources, is being increased from 11 per cent to 11½ per cent for each interest free year. The 'concessionary' rate of interest on loans for employment-creating projects (category A) is increased from 8 per cent to 8½ per cent. The 'broadly commercial' rate of interest on loans for modernisation projects not providing additional employment (category B) is increased from 11 per cent to 11½ per cent.

National electricity consumers' council

An Electricity Consumers' Council is to be set up at national level. Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has taken this decision in the light of the statement made on Tuesday by the Secretary of State for Energy on the re-organisation of the electricity supply industry in England and Wales.

Replying to a parliamentary question from Ioan Evans, MP (Aberdare), Mr Hattersley said that the council would initially be set up on a non-statutory basis and that he hoped to announce its composition and terms of reference shortly. It would have a paid chairman and full secretarial staff and include among its membership the chairmen of the area electricity consultative councils.

Mr Hattersley added; 'It is my intention that it should give the electricity consumer an influential and clearly heard voice at national level.'

VAT-exclusive prices

The Consumer Protection Advisory Committee's report* on value added tax-exclusive prices was published on 20 July. If implemented, it would require prices or charges quoted to consumers to be inclusive of VAT.

If the amount of VAT in money is clearly shown, eg £100 plus £8 VAT, the report concedes that a VAT-exclusive price should be allowed. In the case of estimates and quotations, the report also allows a VAT-exclusive price followed by a clear indication of the rate of VAT, eg £250 plus 8 per cent VAT.

Roy Hattersley, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, to whom the report was made, is considering what action to take on the proposals.

* 'VAT-Exclusive Prices', HMSO, price 60p.

OVERSEAS

Snags and successes of exporting

A book of 15 export case studies has been published this week (19 July) by the British Overseas Trade Board. It is designed to spread as widely as possible – in industry, commerce and educational institutions – the experience and knowledge of exporting which has been gained by 15 different companies selling a variety of capital and consumer goods throughout the world.

In a foreword, Sir Frederick Catherwood, BOTB chairman, comments that the book does not show that building and sustaining a high export turnover is easy. 'It does show that with ongoing commitment and professional approach it is both possible and profitable. I believe that in this, Britain's Export Year, this book will provide both detailed guidelines and a practical incentive to many other companies to increase their export effort.'

Each case study considers how an individual company tackled selling in overseas markets and examines its experience – both snags and successes. The products of the firms covered in the book range from mining and medical equipment to cutlery and carpets. Their export markets are equally diverse; from the industrialised countries of western Europe, North America and Japan, to the oil-rich countries of Opec, the centrally-planned economies of the USSR and China, and the developing nations such as India and Mexico. Between them, the 15 companies export to over 50 markets throughout the world.

The book, '15 Export Case Studies', is published by the British Overseas Trade Board and is available, price £3.50 post free, from Room LG37, Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. All orders for copies must be accompanied by cash. Cheques should be made payable to the Department of Industry.

Venezuelan contact

During his visit to the UK from 14 to 19 July, Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Dr Valentin Hernandez Acosta (left) met Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell. Dr Hernandez was here at the invitation of Dr Dickson Mabon, Minister of State at the Department of Energy to initiate the working group on energy set up under the Anglo-Venezuelan economic and industrial co-operation agreement which was initalled during the visit of President Perez to London last November. It is hoped that Mr Dell will sign the agreement when he visits Caracas during the summer.

EUROPE

Council adopt JRC programme

Ministers adopted the multi-annual research programme of the joint research centre (JRC), which is to be implemented during the period 1977-80 at a meeting of the council of ministers in Brussels on 18 to 19 July. Over the four-year period the total cost will be approximately £144 million. On an annual basis this represents roughly 1 per cent of the total EEC budget, with a UK contribution of about £7 million.

The JRC is the means whereby the community carries out its own 'direct action' research activities. It comprises four establishments at Ispra (Italy), Petten (Netherlands), Geel (Belgium) and Karlsruhe (Germany). The four establishments employ together some 2300 staff of all grades of whom roughly 1000 are research staff. Almost two-thirds of the staff are located at Ispra.

Ban on herring fishing imposed

A community ban on herring fishing in the North Sea until 30 September, pending further study of scientific evidence by the EEC commission was imposed by EEC agriculture ministers at their meeting in Brussels on 18-19 July. The previous community ban expired on 30 June and a unilateral British ban on herring fishing in British North Sea waters was imposed for six months on 1 July.

Ministers also approved an indefinite ban on all directed fishing for herring for industrial purposes in community waters, and on all landings of such herrings. Quotas to restrict herring fishing off the west coast of Scotland, will also be imposed until the end of the year. The Irish lifted a reserve on this arrangement in return for fishing restrictions off the west coast of Ireland in the form of a ban until the end of August and reduced quotas after that.

European patent convention

The European Patent Convention has now received the necessary ratification by six states of a certain size of patent activity and will come into force on 7 October. The six states are the UK, the Federal Republic of Germany; the Netherlands, Switzerland, France and Luxembourg. The UK ratified the convention on 3 March (see *Trade and Industry*, 11 March, page 629).

Home news

Counter-inflation policy

Government continues to regard the mastery of inflation as the condition for success in returning to full employment. On 15 July, Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, made a statement in parliament about the further measures which the government proposed to take in the fight against inflation and unemployment in the light of discussions it had held with the TUC and of the revised prospects for the economy. An orderly return to normal collective wage bargaining was essential to the government's objective of getting inflation down to single figures and keeping it there. Given this condition, the announced measures would be enough fully to offset the price increase which the government expects between now and the end of this year.

In the last two years, Mr Healey said, the nation had derived immense advantages from the guidelines on pay which the TUC had formulated in agreement with the government. These guidelines had been fully observed by the whole of the trade union movement and had given invaluable help in the fight against inflation. The government and TUC had recognised that the period after July 1977 must bring an orderly return to normal collective bargaining and that there must be no free-for-all or pay explosion.

On 22 June, Mr Healey explained, the TUC General Council made a major contribution towards these objectives by publishing guidance on the strict maintenance of settlements made under the current policy. The general council said that negotiators should not re-open settlements made under the current policy after 31 July in breach of the 12 months rule; and should not defer settlements due before 31 July in the hope of securing an advantage by doing so. The only exceptions to the 12 months rule related to occupational pensions and self-financing productivity schemes. The government attached the greatest importance to this guidance by the TUC. Provided it was observed by all those concerned with pay determination in both the private and public sectors, it would go far to prevent a wage explosion from developing after July 1977. It was the keystone for an orderly return to collective bargaining. It meant that the phase two policy would continue to affect the level of the nation's earnings until the last settlement made under it expired at the end of July 1978.

The effect was to facilitate a phased return to normal collective bargaining. For most people the next settlement would not come until the first half of 1978. By that time there was a good chance that, thanks to the strict adherence to the TUC pay policy in the past year the rate of inflation would be approaching, or would have reached, that of our major competitors. That would provide a better climate for settlements, which could be reinforced by any assistance which the government was able to give.

Earnings

The TUC did not think it practicable for them to give general guidance on the level of pay settlements in the next round when the twelve months had expired for the bargaining group concerned. Since the government had a responsibility for the economy as a whole and for the management of the public sector, it had a duty to the British people to state its position on this matter.

Mr Healey said that the country now faced a choice which would determine whether by getting a sustained fall in the rate of inflation it could profit fully from the new opportunities opened up by the success of other policies and the flow of North Sea oil. Many factors might affect the rate of inflation. Some of these were now turning in our favour. On the best forecasts now available of the factors which might contribute to inflation, the prospect for prices in 1978 and after would depend critically on the rate of increase in the nation's wage bill. He took three examples by way of illustration:

1 if the rate of increase in earnings was not more than 10 per cent, inflation should fall below 10 per cent well before this time next year and stay there throughout the year;
2 if the rate of increase in earnings was as high as 15 per cent, inflation would not be got down to 10 per cent at all, and it would be rising steadily through the second half of next year and into 1979;
3 if the rate of increase in earnings was as high as 20 per cent prices would soar and the country would be back in the situation it faced just over two years ago.

Any given rate of earnings increase implied a significantly lower rate of increase in settlements. The rate of increase in earnings took account of overtime, job changes, and other factors which contributed to what was called wage drift. Mr Healey recalled that the £6 policy, representing an average increase in wage settlements of nearly 11 per cent, produced an increase in earnings for the year of 14 per cent.

Faced with a choice of the kind illustrated by the examples he had described, he said the government had a clear duty to urge all concerned to base their approach to pay negotiations on getting inflation into single figures. It must therefore urge that the general level of pay settlements should be moderate enough to secure that the national earnings increase was no more than 10 per cent.

In a period which must mark an orderly return to normal collective bargaining the government agreed with the TUC that it was not possible to stipulate a specific figure at which individual negotiators should invariably settle but it must seek to ensure that the national target was achieved. This meant that the general level of settlements must be well within single figures.

The government recommended those concerned with pay determination in both the public and private sectors to be guided by these considerations and to make new settlements on the basis that they would last for twelve months. It would do everything possible to secure that full account was taken of this guidance throughout the public sector: the guidance applied equally to the private sector and the government expects similar action there.

In settling pay in important areas of the public sector the government had long had valuable assistance from the three pay review bodies. The government valued their help and would ask them to continue their task within the guidance for pay described above.

It would not be possible in the next twelve months to deal with the whole range of pay anomalies and other problems that had inevitably arisen during a period of strict pay guidelines. Only the most serious difficulties could be tackled in the coming year, Mr Healey said, if necessary on a phased basis and taking full account of the need to keep the total settlement within single figures.

Dividend control

The government proposed to extend dividend controls for a further year with the same limit of 10 per cent as at present. It had already announced its intention to extend for one year the present control over the profit margins of manufacturers, service firms and distributors. In addition it was necessary to continue the provisions in relation to employers in the Remuneration, Charges and Grants Act 1975 to the extent needed to support and enforce the TUC guidance on the 12 months rule. An order would be required under that act to achieve all these purposes. Further orders would be needed in due course for the details of the margin control.

Where a firm had reached a settlement which was quite clearly inconsistent with the policies set out in this statement, he said, the government would take this into account in public purchasing policy and the placing of contracts, and also in the consideration of industrial assistance.

Measures to maintain living standards

Mr Healey stated that the government would of course continue discussions with the TUC over the whole field of the social contract. Meanwhile the government was responding to the TUC's request for action to create a climate favourable to an orderly return to normal collective bargaining. In particular it

was proposing measures which could give working people confidence that their living standards could be generally maintained by moderate settlements at twelve-month intervals. These measures were designed to give special help to the low paid and to families with children.

The improvement in the economic prospect since the budget, in particular the improvement in the balance of payments, made it possible for Mr Healey to make the following proposals in the field of taxation, prices and employment.

Tax relief

He proposed that the reduction already agreed in petrol duty should take effect from 6.00 pm on 8 August. He did not intend to look for offsetting tax increases elsewhere.

The government also accepted the principle expressed in certain amendments made at committee stage of the Finance Bill that the income tax personal allowances should be increased further. However, the government wished to concentrate relief this year particularly on families. By contrast, the committee stage amendments would tilt the balance in favour of the single personal allowance. He would therefore be proposing at report stage of the Finance Bill to substitute an amendment which would increase the allowances, but restore the balance of his original proposal in favour of families. It would increase the single personal allowance by £40 and the married person's allowance by £70 as compared with the increase in these allowances which he originally proposed in his budget speech, at a cost of some £490 million; and there would be corresponding increases in other allowances. At the same time, he would propose a reduction in the basic rate of income tax by 1*p* from 35*p* to 34*p*, at a cost of some £470 million. The total full year costs of the income tax reliefs in this year's Finance Bill would thus come to some £2¼ billion – closely in line with his original intention in the Budget.

Child benefit

The government had also decided to increase family support in 1978-79 by a substantial improvement in the rates of child benefit as part of the further phasing in of the child benefit scheme. From April 1978 child benefit rates would be increased from the present £1 for the first child and £1.50 for subsequent children to £2.30 for all children, together with a doubling of the present premium for the first child of one-parent families to £1, at a net exchequer cost in 1978-79 which would be over £300 million. The new rates would result in part from a further step in the phasing out of child tax allowances, the basic level of which would be reduced to £100. A fuller statement about the level of child tax allowances in 1978-79 would be made in due course.

Price reductions

The government had decided to prevent certain increases in the cost of living which would otherwise take effect before the end of this year and which were particularly burdensome for people on low incomes or with family commitments. Milk was an important item in family budgets, especially when there were several children. The government had therefore decided to increase the milk subsidy so as to prevent an immediate further price rise of 1½*p* a pint and to keep the price of milk unchanged until the end of the year. The cost would be about £110 million falling in the financial year 1977-78.

The income limits for eligibility for free school meals were to be raised. This would provide over half a million more children with free school meals and increased the number benefiting to about one quarter of those children who take school meals. School meals would now be free for a family with two children having earnings up to over £60 a week, and for a family with four children up to over £75 a week. The cost would be £18 million in 1977-78 and £28 million in a full year. Local authorities would be consulted about how this should be reimbursed.

The electricity discount scheme would be operated again this winter, in order to relieve households receiving family income supplement or supplementary benefit of 25 per cent of one quarter's bill.

Additional jobs

The government announced last month, said Mr Healey, a programme of training and work experience courses for young people at a cost building up to £160 million a year; and a special temporary employment programme providing jobs for adults at a cost of £68 million a year. It had also decided to approve up to a further £100 million for construction in the current financial year, so as to assist employment in the construction industry, which was now going through a particularly difficult time. This was in addition to the £100 million for inner cities which he announced in the budget. The government was considering in the course of the normal annual review of public expenditure what further help could be given to the construction industry in the next financial year.

The government had also reviewed the requirements for additional expenditure in support of the industrial strategy. As a result, a further cash sum of £70 million would be provided, to be drawn down over the next few years for schemes in the ferrous foundry and machine tools industries and for a new product and process development scheme.

The total cost of these industry measures was £1¼ billion in the current financial year, rising to £1½ billion next year. The resulting stimulus to demand in the economy would in itself generate substantial additional employment, Mr Healey said.

Public expenditure

Strict control over public expenditure would be maintained. The cost of the public expenditure measures in the current year would be found from within the contingency reserve so that no change would be required in this year's planned total for public expenditure. The individual expenditure programme for 1978-79 would also be affected by the decisions concerning child benefit, school meals and the industry schemes. However for total public expenditure the white paper published last January (Cmnd 6721) remained the basis

Leeds 20 000th small firm inquiry

Mr D. H. du Rieu (centre), the 20 000th inquirer at the Small Firms Information Centre for Yorkshire and Humberside, introduced to Bob Cryer (right), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, by John Lister, manager of the centre. Mr du Rieu, joint managing director of Quentsplas Ltd of Wetherby, had called at the Leed's centre to inquire about the assistance available for a forthcoming export visit to the Middle East. Quentsplas Ltd offers a wide range of resin-based bonding and coating materials for applications in building, construction and industrial repairs.

for planning. The programmes would be reviewed in detail in the annual survey.

For 1977-78 the cash limits had already been fixed and published in the white paper of last March (Cmnd 6767). No general changes were planned in the limits. For 1978-79 the assumptions used would reflect the Government's policy on pay. Spending authorities would not be able to rely on supplementary provision beyond the cash limits.

Monetary policy

Taken by themselves, Mr Healey continued, the tax reliefs which he had announced, implied a net addition of £100 million to the budget estimate for the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) for the current year. On the other hand developments in the economy since the spring pointed to a reduction in the original forecast. As he had explained, the additions to public expenditure this year would be found from within the contingency reserve, and implied no additional change in the PSBR. The measures he had announced would not increase the PSBR above the level of £8.5 billion forecast in the budget, that is, a figure within the limit of £8.7 billion which was announced last December at the time of the IMF agreement.

Equally, Mr Healey was satisfied that the measures which he had announced were consistent with the limit which he had announced for domestic credit expansion and the forecast range for sterling M3. The government was determined to maintain its domestic credit expansion limit and related control of M3.

In conclusion, Mr Healey said that the measures which he had announced would give substantial additional protection to living standards for working people generally, and especially for families with children and those with earnings well below the average. Indeed for the great majority of workers they would themselves be enough, or more than enough, fully to offset the price increase which the government expected between now and the end of this year. The policy which he had described must be applied by all concerned with good sense and realism. The government would play its full part with the TUC and the CBI in seeking to achieve this.

More money for food subsidies

An extra £177 million has been made available for food subsidies in 1977-78 as part of the government's counter-inflation strategy.

Giving this figure in parliament on 15 July Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, emphasised that it would make a significant contribution to an early deceleration of the inflation rate.

Most of the extra money has been made available for milk, to which the government are giving priority because of its importance to most family households. A retail price increase in the autumn was foreshadowed in an announcement by the Minister of Agriculture on 6 May. Mainly because of unexpectedly large increases in distribution costs it would have been at least 1½p per pint instead of the 1p originally expected. The retail price of ordinary pasteurised milk will now remain unchanged at its present level of 11½p per pint to the end of 1977. The balance of the extra funds is needed for the butter subsidy reintroduced in May under an EEC regulation. At the retail level this is worth about 10p per lb.

There has been no reduction in the sums available for the other subsidies, but the bread and cheese subsidies are now being removed in accordance with the original plans. The ending of the bread subsidy on 17 July will mean an immediate increase in the maximum permitted retail price of 1p per large loaf. The major bakers have also notified the Price Commission of their intention to raise prices by ½p per loaf from the same time, but it is now understood than in many cases they will not be making the increase at once. The statutory maximum prices are nevertheless being raised to allow for the removal of subsidy and for the increases notified by the bakers.

The cheese subsidy, worth about 3p a lb at the retail level, is also being ended as from 17 July. Substantial stocks are held by distributors and in most shops the full effect is unlikely to be felt for a few weeks.

Food subsidy expenditure in the last three years has been as follows: 1974-75 £518 million; 1975-76 £572 million; and 1976-77 £401 million. The financial estimates originally allowed £43.4 million for 1977-78. This will now be increased to £220.5 million, provisionally allocated as follows: milk £129 million; butter £67.1 million; bread £10.4 million; cheese £9.7 million; and flour £4.3 million. Of the total for butter, about £50 million will be reimbursed from the EEC agricultural fund (FEOGA). The avoidance of a 1½p per pint increase on milk and the 10p per lb subsidy on butter will together save about 0.4 per cent on the all-items retail price index and 1.7 per cent on the food index in the remainder of this year.

Retail margins on coffee to be controlled

Following publication of the Price Commission report* on coffee prices Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection announced in parliament on 15 July his intention of controlling retail margins on instant coffee. He said that consultations with interested parties would be starting at once.

The Price Commission report shows that most of the retail price increase since the beginning of 1976 has been due to the rising cost of raw coffee which in turn is due primarily to shortages of supply. For the United Kingdom the price rise has been exaggerated by the depreciation of sterling.

The commission found that the percentage margins of dealers and manufacturers were considerably lower in 1976 than in 1974. The gross percentage margins of wholesalers and retailers have on the whole remained constant. Although these margins are below the average for all grocery products and firms have not, on average, increased their percentage mark-up, the maintenance by distributors of traditional percentage margins has resulted in greatly increased cash margins.

In view of the exceptional price movements which have taken place at the first hand stage and the retail price rises which are still in the pipeline the government intend to introduce a maximum retail cash margin on instant coffee in order to safeguard the interests of consumers. The consultations suggest a maximum retail margin on a scale ranging from 8p on 4 oz of coffee to 64p on 2 lb or more.

* 'Coffee: Prices, Costs and Margins', Price Commission report no. 29 HMSO, price 80p.

No monopoly in flour and bread

No monopoly conditions operating against the public interest were found by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in an examination of the milling and baking industries. In a report* published on 14 July the commission concluded that profits on milling were high and those on baking low, but the three major milling and baking groups were not deliberately depressing baking profits or manipulating the price of flour. The situation might, however, need to be re-examined if a modification of official controls led to the three groups making better profits on baking while milling profitability remained high.

Announcing publication of the report in parliament John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said that the commission found that monopoly conditions, as defined in the legislation in force when the reference was made, prevailed in respect of the supply of flour because each of the three major milling groups, Associated British Foods Ltd, Ranks Hovis McDougall Ltd and Spillers Ltd required its respective flour-using subsidiaries to buy their flour from the group's own mills so far as it was possible to do so. Consequently about 51 per cent of the market for flour was closed to competition from other millers. The commission concluded that the three groups by virtue of this practice were so conducting their respective affairs as to prevent or restrict competition, but they further concluded that neither the flour monopoly conditions nor any of the things done by the groups as a result of or for the purpose of preserving the conditions operated or might be expected to operate against the public interest.

The commission considered whether monopoly conditions existed by virtue of the three groups so conducting their affairs as to restrict competition in the supply of bread, but found that no such conditions existed. In considering this question they examined, among other matters, the uniformity of list prices, but concluded that there had been competition in discounts and

* 'Monopolies and Mergers Commission Report on the supply in the United Kingdom of Wheat Flour and of Bread made from Wheat Flour' (HoC 412), HMSO, price £2.25.

other inducements, and thus in net prices, when and to the extent that statutory provisions had not prevented this. Any consideration of the existence or effect of possibly anti-competitive conduct must take account of the fact that before and during the period of its investigation both the flour and bread industries had been subject to a substantial degree of statutory control and official pressure.

The commission examined several ways in which the flour monopoly conditions might affect the public interest, having regard to the effect of the wide disparity in profitability between the milling and baking activities of the three groups. They were satisfed that the groups were not deliberately depressing the profitability of baking or manipulating the price of flour, but they suggested that the situation might need to be re-examined if modification of official controls led to the three big groups making better profits on baking while milling profitability remained high.

The inquiry uncovered 77 undisclosed restrictive agreements relating to bread discounts operated by the three major groups or their subsidiaries, particulars of which had not been furnished to the Director General of Fair Trading. Details were subsequently reported to him and the agreements, which had by then been abandoned, were registered.

In the absence of any finding of adverse affect on the public interest there are no grounds for action by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, but the commission's suggestion that the profitability of the three groups might need to be re-examined in certain circumstances has been noted.

The Director General of Fair Trading had taken proceedings against the parties concerned in respect of the failure to send particulars of the restrictive agreements for the register. There have been three occasions within the last three years in which a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation has revealed the existence of unregistered agreements. Mr Fraser found it particularly disturbing that on each of these occasions large firms had been involved who should have been well aware of the requirements of the law.

Safety regulations for aerosols

Only those aerosols meeting safety standards specified in an EEC directive will be permitted to carry the recognised EEC mark as a result of regulations now published and due to come into force on 1 September.

Answering a parliamentary question on 14 July John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said that the regulations made it an offence for any person responsible for the initial marketing in the United Kingdom of filled aerosols bearing the reversed epsilon ('ɜ') symbol to sell them if they did not comply with the prescribed requirements. In addition, they banned the use of vinyl chloride monomer as a propellant in all aerosols, whether or not they bore the 'ɜ' mark. Separate regulations were to be made as soon as possible under the Consumer Protection Act 1961 imposing safety requirements for aerosols not marked with the reversed epsilon.

The regulations, 'The Aerosol Dispensers (EEC Requirements) Regulations 1977' SI 1977/1140 (HMSO, price 25p), are made under the European Communities Act 1972. They implement EEC directive no. 75/324/EEC of 20 May 1975. The regulations will be enforced by local trading standards authorities.

The directive requires member states to permit the marketing of aerosols (whether metal, glass or plastic) which meet specified requirements concerning such matters as leak-tightness, compatibility of container with contents, test-pressure of the container, filling pressure, volume of the liquid phase, testing of filled aerosols in a hot water bath, safety labelling and quantity of contents marking. Manufacturers or marketers of aerosols may affix the 'ɜ'-mark to them denoting compliance and the effect of the regulations will be to ensure that the mark is lawfully used only on filled aerosols which do, in fact, comply.

Apart from certain aspects of the labelling requirements and the ban on vinyl chloride monomer, neither the directive nor the regulations are concerned with the safety in use of the product contained in aerosols. This has been covered or will be covered in separate directives as, for example, in the case of the adopted directive on cosmetics and the proposed directive on the labelling and packaging of household products.

It was originally intended to specify safety requirements for all aerosol dispensers, whether or not marked with the 'ɜ' symbol, in a single set of regulations made jointly under the European Communities Act 1972 and the Consumer Protection Act 1961. It is now, however, considered preferable to make separate regulations under the two acts dealing with 'ɜ'-marked aerosols and unmarked aerosols respectively.

The EEC ban on the use of vinyl chloride monomer as a propellant in aerosols has been introduced because this substance is carcinogenic. It has not been used for this purpose in this country.

The Trade Descriptions Act 1972 requires that, if a United Kingdom name is applied to imported goods, the country of origin must be shown. This will no longer be necessary (regulation 12(1)) with regard to 'ɜ' marked aerosols which have been manufactured in an EEC member state and the United Kingdom name or mark is that of the person first responsible for marketing the aerosol dispenser.

The Trade Descriptions Act 1968 prohibits the importation of goods bearing a trade description which gives a false indication of their origin. For the purpose of this act in respect of 'ɜ' marked goods, the name and address or trade mark of the person responsible for marketing the aerosol dispenser will be deemed not to be a trade description when it appears on the dispenser and thus the provisions of the act will not be triggered when such dispensers are imported (regulation 12(2)).

Versatile Firecracker

Making its first flight over southern England is a new British two-seat civil and military trainer aircraft, the NDN-1 Firecracker, which is designed to be built by hand. It made its first public appearance at the Paris air show. Firecracker is capable of such diverse roles as gunnery and rocketry instruction, agricultural flying and glider or target towing. The propeller-driven aircraft is fully aerobatic and is equipped with retractable undercarriage, dive brake and optionally, a weapons system comprising four under-wing pylons. Construction is all metal, using easily-produced sections in light alloy and steel sheet. The six-cylinder engine develops 260 horsepower with a maximum level speed of 340 km/h and the three-bladed propeller is equipped for full-power inverted flight. In the tandem seating arrangement the rear seat is stepped up in the manner of the latest jet trainers. Firecracker is being offered on a 'technology transfer' basis, with the manufacturers providing all the expertise necessary to establish its manufacture. For less than the price of a medium-sized airliner the project could provide a developing country with the means of setting up a ready-made aircraft industry.

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ENCIRCLE TI 551 ON PAGE 159 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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Helicopter airports link

British Airports Authority is proposing to start a helicopter service between London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports next April and has asked the two airports' consultative committees for their views. The helicopter air link would operate on a trial basis for one year, its future depending on the use made of it during that time, and is expected to be discontinued when the M25 motorway linking the two airports is completed in 1982. The proposed service would operate hourly in each direction and the flying time is expected to be no more than 15 minutes.

The British Airports Authority has been studying the feasibility of a Heathrow-Gatwick air link since April 1976 and sees the service as an essential ingredient in the government's policy for the planned transfer of certain air services from Heathrow to Gatwick. During the studies consideration was given to both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters but the BAA has rejected a fixed-wing service because the average time for the journey would not be significantly better than by road and it would mean using runway slots which are already limited at times at both airports.

Sea rules mandatory

For the first time observance of traffic separation schemes, including the Dover Strait scheme, becomes mandatory for the ships of all countries party to new international regulations,* which includes all major shipping countries. The international regulations to prevent collisions at sea, which came into force on 15 July, introduce detailed changes and improvements in long-standing rules covering steering, sailing, lights and signals. The United Kingdom and a number of other countries, however, made the regulations mandatory on their ships several years ago.

In view of this significant development, a special count of shipping in the channel was recently undertaken and arrangements are being made from the date of introduction of the new regulations to increase the identification of contravening vessels in the channel by means of aircraft and ships. The number of ships disregarding the traffic separation schemes in the Dover Strait – by proceeding against the traffic flow in a lane or crossing lanes at any angle instead of reasonably near to a right angle – has dropped steadily from nearly 12 000 in 1974 and 9 000 in 1975 to 8 000 in 1976. In 1977 the total may rise slightly because an additional radar scanner brought into action in September 1976 will extend the area covered. The number of collisions in the Dover Strait fell from 13 in 1971 to seven in 1974 and six in 1976.

A number of United Kingdom ports have yet to complete the procedures to amend their byelaws in the light of the revised regulations. The ports concerned are of course aware of the problems this might cause, and mariners are advised to check the byelaws currenly in force in any port they propose to enter.

*A Merchant Shipping Notice (M761) 'Revision of International Collision Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea' is available from Merchantile Marine Offices of the Department of Trade and the Marine Library, Department of Trade, Sunley House, High Holborn, London WC1M 6LP.

Increasing small and medium sized company efficiency

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has approved the appointment of the Steering Committee for the Manufacturing Advisory Service:

Dr K. A. G. Miller (chairman), managing director, APV Holdings Ltd

Mr B. Asher, industrial director, NEDO

Dr G. S. Brosan, director, North East London Polytechnic

Mr R. C. Cartwright, deputy chairman and joint managing director, Martonair International Ltd

Dr A. H. Chilver, vice-chancellor, Cranfield Institute of Technology

Mr G. E. P. Constable, head, engineering design, Design Council

Mr D. H. Goss, general manager, Ewart Chairbelt Co Ltd

Mr G. Laird, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers

Mr H. M. Lang, chief executive, P. E. International Ltd

Mr T. S. Monkcom, managing director, The DeVilbiss Co Ltd

Mr F. W. W. Morley, retired senior industrialist

The Earl of Shannon, director, Committee of Directors of Research Associations

Dr H. J. Sharp, consultant

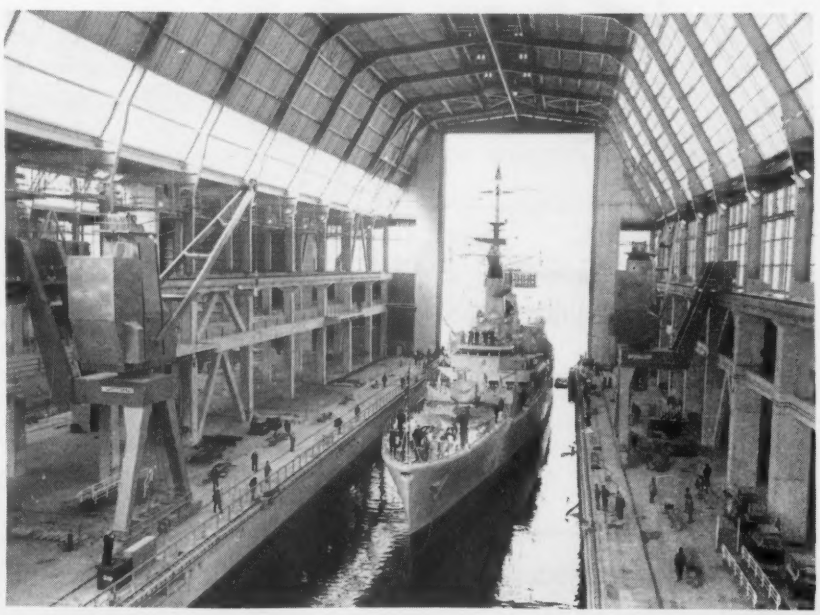
Mr J. H. Wilder, managing director, John Wilder (Engineering) Ltd

The steering committee will advise on the operation and development of the Manufacturing Advisory Service, which was announced on 4 May 1977. It is being set up to help small and medium sized companies in manufacturing industry to increase efficiency by adopting modern but well proven technology and management practices. It is intended mainly for firms employing between 100 and 1000 employees in metal working and assembly, which are activities common to many industrial sectors. The service will start on a modest scale, aiming to cover some 700 firms in the first two years, at an estimated cost of £1.75 million.

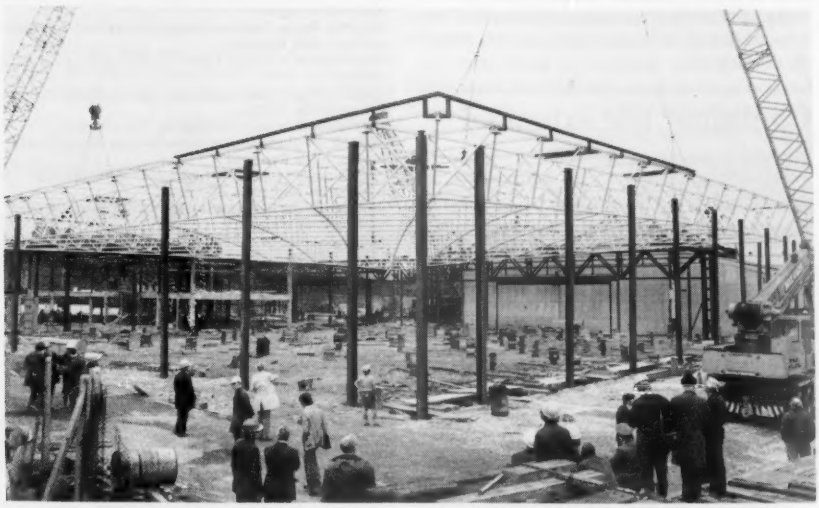
Further information can be obtained from the Department of Industry, Research Requirements Branch 3, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 3520.

Out of the rain

Royal Naval frigate, HMS *Cleopatra*, 2500 tonnes, sails smoothly into the largest covered dock for warships in the world for a refit. The dock, at Devonport Dockyard in Plymouth, is one of three in a multi-million pound complex on the River Tamar – each big enough to dwarf a cathedral and featuring the latest advances in marine technology. Devonport Dockyard can now take three frigates at the same time and work on them in all weathers, an advantage in a region where the average annual rainfall is more than 1000 mm.



Roofed in one



The roof of the repair workshop of the new £3 million bus garage for Greater Manchester Transport Executive at Bolton being lifted into position. With a span of 50.7 m each way and weighing 92.5 tonnes, it is the largest clear span Nodus spaceframe roof yet built.

Clearance of merger proposal

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the proposed merger between Aktiebolaget Statens Skogsindustrier and Dolan Packaging Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1977

The Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1977 (1977, chapter 19) is now available from HMSO, price 25p. It removes certain types of loan-financing agreement from the scope of the legislation on restrictive trade practices. Details of the bill, which received the royal assent on 30 June, were reported in *Trade and Industry* of 24 June.

Dividend controls

The government has now confirmed its intention to provide in the Finance Bill a reduction in the rate of Advance Corporation Tax (ACT) from 35/65th to 34/66th with retrospective effect from 6 April 1977. This will affect dividends paid on or after that date and the Treasury therefore wishes to clarify the position of companies in that situation.

Companies having declared a final (or second interim) net dividend which exhausted their maximum permissible entitlement under ACT at 35/65ths may now declare a further net dividend bringing that entitlement up to the maximum permissible under ACT at 34/66ths. No Treasury consent is required provided that this further dividend is clearly expressed as being in respect of the past completed year. Payment may then be made either immediately, or at some later date when a dividend is being paid for the current year.

Companies not wishing to declare such a further dividend will need to seek a Treasury consent in writing so that the 'gross' reference basis for the dividends of their current year, which will affect their entitlement to declare dividends while the controls are in force, is established at a rate of ACT of 35/65ths although the payments were made during the tax year 1977-78 for which the rate of ACT is now known to be 34/66ths.

Private invisibles record expected

Britain's invisible earnings are set for further significant growth in 1977. In the latest annual report* of the Committee on Invisible Exports, published recently, Sir Francis Sandilands, chairman, said that the committee would be disappointed if the net surplus on private invisibles (excluding government transactions) had not comfortably crossed the £5,000 million mark by the end of the year. Last year the comparable figure was £4,300 million; 10 years ago it was below £1,000 million.

Gross private invisible earnings rose by over 40 per cent last year, to reach a new record of over £12,800 million, equivalent to over half the value of Britain's visible exports. Individual performances revealed that invisible earnings from tourism rose by 45 per cent, civil aviation by 35 per cent, and construction engineering consultancy by nearly 60 per cent. The results of the committee's sixth annual survey, published in May, indicated that net overseas earnings of the major United Kingdom service industries should grow by around 25 per cent in 1977 on 1976.

* 'Annual Report 1976/77', available free of charge from Committee on Invisible Exports, 7th floor, The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HH, tel. 01-628 3161.

Freeze on gas prices

The periodic return rendered by British Gas for the 12 months to 31 March 1977 disclosed an excess of £36.6 million over the corporation's reference level. Paragraph 83 of the Price Code requires action to be taken to deal with any such excess. After consultations with the corporation, the Price Commission has served a notice under section 6(2) and (3) of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973.

The effect of the notice is to impose a 'freeze' on all gas prices and charges, other than the increases specifically covered by the order of consent issued by the Secretary of State for Energy on 28 March 1977, until such time as the commission is satisfied that the excess of £36.6 million has been vacated.

Action learning for industrial managers

A major advance in developing the concept of action learning for industrial managers is currently being mounted by the Institution of Works Managers with the support of the Training Services Agency and will, it is anticipated, provide significant benefits to industry.

Specifically the scheme has two interrelated objectives. First it will help senior and experienced managers to improve their effectiveness and skills. Secondly, and in parallel, it will enable organisations to undertake management development more relevant to their real problems. To these ends it has been agreed to establish a network of eight regional co-ordinators across the UK to extend problem-based training within manufacturing and other industries.

'Each of these co-ordinators will develop his own region, setting up management action groups with the co-operation of branches of the Institution of Works Managers,' explains Mr G. Tomlinson of the Training Services Agency. 'At the same time he, or she, will set up a communications network of key contacts in the industrial training boards, other institutions and professional bodies, and link in to the strong resources of universities, polytechnics and colleges of further education.'

The action learning groups will comprise four to six managers who will learn with, and

from, each other by investigating, planning and then taking action on real-life problems that confront them. They meet part-time over a period of six months and, under the guidance of an experienced counsellor, select and then pursue agreed problems. Each group is, in effect, an on-going planned forum for mutual self-help by a group of managers. Rather than tackling a problem alone, they can work together to achieve the best possible solution for action. In this way each member of the group develops a greater ability for objective problem solving.

Equally, of course, his company benefits, both by developing the potential of its managers, and by having a problem met in the best possible way.

Prior to this new scheme being mounted, a 15-month experiment has been carried out with four middle management clinics – in Luton, Redditch, Sheffield and Merseyside – with successful results. The Institution of Works Managers, which has 80 branches, and whose courses in industrial management are run at 184 polytechnics and colleges of further education across the country, feels that this new development will add a much-needed new dimension to industrial training.

Awareness of industrial needs in design education

Much of the current education debate has been concerned with the relationship between industry and education, and one of the main recommendations of a Design Council report* on industrial design education is that there should be an increased awareness of industrial requirements among both teachers and students.

The report, published 11 July, was prepared by a sub-committee of the Council's Design Education Study Group. The sub-committee's work was seen strictly as part of the council's role of improving the design of products from Britain's engineering industries, though the committee also considered other aspects of industrial design which it felt were relevant to its study.

The standard of education of industrial designers in the UK is held in high regard by the rest of the world, but the Design Council believes there is room for improvement in the teaching of design at all levels and in creating a wider understanding of the nature, purpose and economic advantages to be gained from good design.

Among the recommendations likely to arouse interest are that a study should be undertaken of all design related courses and examinations at secondary level; that firmer links should be forged between the teaching of the sciences, humanities and creative studies at school; that industrial design vocational courses should be established to meet the need for industrial design technicians; that educational establishments should ensure that all those responsible for teaching design keep in close contact with industry; that management colleges and schools should recognise design as a central process in the country's industrial activity; that a study group should be set up to consider a scheme where new graduates are given the opportunity to work in special 'cells' within selected design practices or company offices; and that new post-graduate sandwich courses should be developed.

* 'Industrial Design Education in the UK', Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London SW1 4SU, price 50p plus 20p postage and packing.

Container life extended

Preparations to shotblast a steel container at Container Workshops Ltd's new container repair depot in Manchester. Given a thorough refurbishing twice, the average working life of the containers, now between four and six years, can be extended to around 15 years. The new depot is one of the largest and most comprehensive container repair units in Europe. It can handle about 15 000 steel containers a year, with storage space for up to 300, and also has facilities for the complete refurbishing of road trailers.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949, the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

1 July 1977

1319982 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in vehicles driven by a petrol engine with a frequency-responsive control device, notably used for reducing the atmospheric pollution caused by the engine
1322571 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Device for mounting and adjusting vehicle headlights
1343939 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in centrifugal casting devices
1350789 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements to heat responsive switching devices
1352368 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in synchronizers
1353402 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
A machine for manufacturing shell moulds for lost-pattern precision casting
1356977 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in delayed-opening switches for interior lighting of vehicles
1357390 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in cylinder heads for spark-ignition internal combustion engines
1361069 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in energy absorbing devices on automotive vehicles
1379800 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in door handles, for motor vehicles
1405468 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in motor vehicles with automatically controlled safety harnesses
1432828 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in or relating to the securing and adjusting of optical units
1434844 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
An electronically controlled carburettor
1440119 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Slide fitting for a safety belt system
1441170 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Exhaust manifold for an internal combustion engine
1438575 Regie Nationale des Usines Renault
Transfer apparatus
1066485 Derek Edwin Fitton
A method of producing screw-threaded components
1358585 Thomas Norman Lang
An improved stabilising apparatus for ships
1460462 Rohm and Haas Co
Ion exchange resins

5 July 1977

1348606 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Improvements in and relating to memory devices providing non-destructive reading
1348747 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Improvements in and relating to devices for detecting leakage
1351405 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Process and apparatus for the separation of gaseous mixture
1352654 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Ion source which makes use of a microwave resonant cavity
1353121 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
A method of treating radioactive wastes
1356020 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Improvements in and relating to ultrasonic testing of solid material
1358925 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
A method of production of hydrogen for the extraction of deuterium and to an installation for carrying out said method
1359085 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
A device for scraping a deposit of metal on a cylindrical bar
1362530 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
A method of and apparatus for eddy-current detection of flaws
1418277 Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique
Treatment of radioactive waste material
1253731 Robert Bosch GmbH
Improvements in regulating valves for fluids
1288508 Robert Bosch GmbH
Improvements in vehicle transmissions.
1320733 Etablissements Prost-Produits Refractraires
Hydraulically setting refractory compositions
1393953 Etablissements Prost-Produits Refractraires
Hydraulically setting refractory compositions
1206391 Gearaide Ltd
Improvements in or relating to machine tools
1412339 Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA
The antibiotic thermozymocidin and a process for its preparation
1429218 Roy Edgar Crocker
Method and apparatus for heat treating liquid or semi-liquid material

7 July 1977

1126832 Ressorts du Nord SA
Improvements in or relating to leaf springs
1176824 Rheiner Maschinenfabrik Windhoff AG
Improvements in pusher trolleys for moving or shunting rail wagons and the like
1215930 United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
Dual purpose plants for production of power and high purity water
1346587 Rolls-Royce Motors Ltd
Apparatus for indicating changes in angular velocity and vehicle braking systems employing such apparatus
1328200 Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen
Telescopic device for transmitting rotary movement

1357993 Poclain
Improvements in or relating to earth working machines
1403960 Chinoin Gyogyszer es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara RT
Pharmaceutical composition

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form no. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Cancellation of 'licences of right' endorsement

Any person may give notice of opposition to the undermentioned application for cancellation of endorsement 'licences of right' under section 36 of the Patents Act 1949 by filing patents form 46 within one month from the date of this magazine.

1382698 N. C. Ashton Ltd
An improved aluminium bronze

1383613 N. C. Ashton Ltd
Improvements in or relating to securing members

Under section 36 of the Patents Act 1949, notice is hereby given that the endorsement 'licences of right' upon the undermentioned patent was cancelled on 29 June 1977.

1252805 Bostik Ltd
Improvements in or relating to polymeric compositions

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Price Commission interventions in June

During June the Price Commission rejected eight notifications of price increases from manufacturing and service companies in Categories I and II. In another 12 cases the companies concerned withdrew their notification of intended increases and in 38 cases the extent of the increases was reduced by the commission.

Following inspection of records kept by enterprises in Category III, the commission's regional offices secured the agreement of 96 distributors, six manufacturers, four service enterprises, one professional enterprise and three construction enterprises to make price reductions amounting to £3.64 million in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits. In addition, the regional offices secured a total of 121 individual voluntary price reductions following investigation of complaints about price increases.

The modification of increases notified by the London Transport Executive was limited to four particular road fares and had only fractional effect on the resultant total percentage increases.

The Price Commission may intervene to reject or modify notifications submitted by Category I and II enterprises at any time during or after the 28-day period which must elapse before the increase can be implemented.

Announcements about price increases where the Price Commission has not intervened are the responsibility of the company imposing the increase. The inclusion of an item in the lists of rejections or withdrawals does not preclude subsequent re-submission.

In some cases a company may submit a single price increase notification involving a range of products. If some items within the range are subject to intervention, the whole notification, for statistical purposes, is treated as a modification.

Rejections

Company/product	% increase sought
CATEGORY I	
Ideal Boilers Ltd	
Cast iron boilers	5.39
Trust Houses Forte Leisure Ltd	
Showbars' catering and liquor tariffs; admission prices to theatres and amusement parks	13.42
CATEGORY II	
Edgar Allen Engineering Ltd	
Railway trackwork	16.83
Hopkinsons Ltd	
Bronze castings	20.35
Hopkinsons Ltd	
Special alloy castings	29.78
Hopkinsons Ltd	
Steel castings	32.35
Seddon Atkinson Vehicles Ltd	
Commercial vehicles	7.50
Truflo Ltd	
Commercial ball valves	20.83

Withdrawals

Company/product	% increase sought
CATEGORY I	
ATV Network Ltd	
Rate of charge for commercial advertising time	1.63
Ruston Gas Turbines Ltd	
Turbochargers (Napier)	2.00
Ruston Gas Turbines Ltd	
Turbochargers (Napier)	6.00
CATEGORY II	
Air Products Ltd	
Industrial gases	6.70
Bestobell Valves Ltd	
Industrial valves and fittings	10.90
Richard Lloyd Ltd	
Screw thread taps	8.26
Pickford, Holland and Co Ltd	
Silica materials	4.74
Pickford, Holland and Co Ltd	
Ground materials	2.36
Pickford, Holland and Co Ltd	
Basic quality materials	4.07
Pickford, Holland and Co Ltd	
Hypermul materials	1.51
Pickford, Holland and Co Ltd	
Mid- and high-alumina products	1.41
Taylor Servomex Ltd	
Instruments	11.37

Modifications

Company/product	% increase sought	% increase after modification
CATEGORY I		
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd		
Special cements	8.71	7.74
Avon Industrial Polymers Ltd		
Range of industrial rubber products	6.83	6.56
Boots Co Ltd		
Medical, toiletry, soap, food, household, pet and garden products	6.66	6.63
Delta Metal Co Ltd		
Brass rod	7.69	6.28
Gallagher Ltd		
Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	1.17	0.94
IMI Opella Ltd		
Plastic water terminal fittings	6.30	5.40
Journal Co Ltd (Carmarthen)		
Cover price and advertising rates	5.85	2.39
London Transport Executive		
Bus and Underground railway fares:		
Road	16.00	Modification does not affect overall yield
Rail	15.00	
Price's Chemicals Ltd		
Stearines and oleines	10.50	10.40
Qualcast (Wolverhampton) Ltd		
Light repetition grey iron castings	9.21	7.83
Rugby Portland Cement Co Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
Smith and Nephew Pharmaceuticals Ltd		
Melolin:		
20 cm by 10 cm	7.63	6.61
10 cm by 10 cm	9.56	8.74
5 cm by 5 cm	8.19	7.65
Wall Paper Manufacturers Ltd		
Paint products	4.77	4.32
CATEGORY II		
Aberthaw and Bristol Channel Portland Cement Co Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
W. Canning Ltd		
Polishing mops, bobs, brushes and compositions	11.19	10.05
Cardale (Preston) Ltd		
Toolmaking and precision engineering charges	10.33	10.13
Carron Co Ltd		
'Cordon Bleu' cookers	12.83	12.22
Coates Bros and Co Ltd		
Resins	7.63	7.04
Crane Ltd		
Pumps	7.61	7.46
Crane Ltd		
Steel castings	10.00	7.41
Hall-Thermotank International Ltd		
Service, repair work and spares relating to refrigerating and air-conditioning equipment	8.93	7.31
Howard Rotavator Co Ltd		
Horticultural rotovator	4.30	2.77
Manure spreader	7.30	6.40
International Harvester Co of Great Britain Ltd		
Agricultural equipment	1.95	1 85
Irwell Corrugated Paper Co		
Corrugated board and globular embossed paper	4.87	4.01
Izal Ltd		
Dispensers containing hand washing cream and cleansers	12.43	12.41
Ketton Portland Cement Co Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
Myson Brooks Ltd		
Industrial ventilating and heating equipment	2.80	2.76
National Car Parks Ltd		
Car park tariffs	6.56	6.53
Pegler-Hattersley Ltd		
Plumbing and engineers' brassware	6.50	6.48
Ribblesdale Cement Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
Sterling-Winthrop Group Ltd		
Zalpon products	16.50	15.84
3M United Kingdom Ltd		
'Hill's' patent number plates	4.29	3.16
Tunnel Cement Ltd		
OPC/RH cement	7.75*	7.30*
Josiah Wedgwood and Sons Ltd		
'William Adams' earthenware	10.70	10.50
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd		
Tribrissen injection 48 per cent	24.91	22.16
Woodhead Components Ltd		
Steel pressings	4.61	3.81
Woodhead Components Ltd		
Starter gear rings	5.44	4.37

*Weighted average under Price Code paragraph 65(1)

Moneylenders Acts 1900 to 1927

Entries in these lists are in alphabetical order according to the first initial letter of the title.

The following companies held orders of exemption valid at 30 June 1977 issued under section 6(e) of the Moneylenders Act 1900.

A. Booth (Estates) Ltd
Afforestation Finance Ltd
Agricultural Supplies (Cambridge) Ltd
Airedale Investment Ltd
Alex Lawrie Factors Ltd
ANZ Overseas Finance Ltd
Ashbrae Finance (UK) Ltd
Austin Morris Group Facilities Ltd

B. A. Finance Ltd
B. S. G. Finance Ltd
Banca Commerciale Italiana Ltd
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd
Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Ltd
Beamtenheimstattenwerk Gemeinnutzige Bausparkasse Fur Den Offentlichen Dienst Gesellschaft Mit Beschranker Haftung
Bentworth Trust Ltd
Book Trade Improvement Ltd
British Maritime Trust Ltd
Bucks Land and Building Co Ltd
Builders and General Mortgage Co Ltd, (The)
B. W. Trade Facilities Ltd

CDFC (Ceylon) Ltd
CDFC International Ltd
CDFC (Malaysia) Ltd
Cameron Fund Ltd, (The)
Canadian Ashland Finance (UK) Ltd
Capital Development Co Ltd
Chrysler Wholesale Ltd
Ciba Geigy (GFS) Ltd
CIN Industrial Finance Ltd
Circle and Piotrkow Provident and Investment Society Ltd
City and Colonial Trust Ltd
Claymore Field (Finance) Ltd
Commerce International Trust Ltd
Commonwealth Development Finance Co Ltd
Contemporary Finance Co Ltd
Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas

Dao Heng Bank Ltd
D. F. J. Charles Ltd
Deutsche Bank (UK) Finance Ltd
Development Finance International Ltd
Diaome Ltd
Dominion Charter Merchant Trust Ltd
Dorset, Somerset and Wilts Investment Society Ltd
Dreghorn Holdings Ltd
Dunlop Investments Ltd
Dunlop Securities Ltd

Efdum Securities Ltd
Equipment Credit Ltd

Faircliffe Finance Co Ltd, (The)
Farnworth Finance Facilities Ltd
Fenlock Investments
Finance Corporation for Industry Ltd
Finfur Ltd
First Canadian Financial Services (UK)
First Guarantee Trust Co Ltd
First National Housing Trust Ltd
Ford Financial Trust Ltd
Ford Motor Credit Co Ltd
F. W. Developments Ltd

GEC Investments Ltd
Gee and Watson (Welfare and Benevolent) Ltd
General Reversionary and Investment Co Ltd
Grand Metropolitan (Finance) Ltd
Guardian Mortgage Co Ltd

Henderson Administration Ltd
Heritable Securities and Mortgage Investment Association Ltd, (The)
Hobbart Properties Ltd
Hoeschst Finance Ltd
Hogarth Finance Ltd
Home and Country Properties Ltd

Independent Factors Ltd
Indochine Finance (UK) Ltd
Insurance Export Finance Co Ltd
I. S. Blomfield Ltd
Ivor Hill (Investments) Ltd

J. F. Nash Finance Ltd
J. P. Morgan Interfunding Corporation
John Laing Construction (Finance) Ltd
Jubilee Money Society Ltd

Kingston Financial Service (Clyde) Ltd

Lancashire and Yorkshire Reversionary Interest Co Ltd
Langersal Ltd
Langham Life Finance Ltd
Law Reversionary Interest Society Ltd, (The)
Lington Holdings Ltd
Liverpool Reversionary Co Ltd, (The)
L. L. and E. Finance (GB) Ltd
Lloyds and Scottish Finance Ltd
London Mercantile Finance Ltd
London Mercantile Guarantee Ltd
Lyle Finance International Ltd

Mall Trust Corporation Ltd
Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance Ltd
Master Bakers and Confectioners Finance Co Ltd
Maybells Finance Ltd
Merban Ltd
Methodist Chapel Aid Association Ltd
Midland Industries (Finance) Ltd
Millbank Development Services Ltd
MIT Securities Ltd

National and Commercial Development Capital Ltd
National Film Finance Consortium Ltd
NCNB (Export Finance) Ltd
New York London Trustee Co Ltd
Niagara Financial Services Ltd

Oakmere Finance Ltd
Ordinto Investments Ltd

Pan American Employees Mutual Association Ltd
Paribas Finance Ltd
Phoenix Redcliffe Ltd
Piper Finance Ltd
Pleasure Heating Finance and Developments Ltd
Property Investment and Finance (Developments) Ltd

Queen Street Trust Ltd

Raleigh Industries (Gradual Payments) Ltd
Rediffusion Finance Ltd
RIB Eastern Ltd
Rio Tinto Finance and Exploration Ltd
RMC Finance Ltd
Robert Fleming and Co Ltd
Roitex Ltd
RTZ Finance Ltd

SCR Finance Ltd
St James's Development Trust Ltd
St Paul's Guarantee Corporation Ltd
Sale Tilney (Finance) Ltd
Scottish and European Finance Ltd
Selap Ltd
Selection Trust Ltd
Ship Mortgage Finance Co Ltd
Small Industries Council for Rural Areas of Scotland
South Birmingham Savings Society Ltd
Southsea Mortgage and Investment Co Ltd
Standard Guarantee Ltd
Stewart Salmon and Co Ltd
Swiss Bank Corporation (International) Ltd

TKM Credit Corporation Ltd
TKM Factors Ltd
Thomson North Sea Finance Co Ltd
Toronto Dominion Bank Investment (UK) Ltd
Treesford Securities Ltd
TWA United Kingdom Credit Union Employees Ltd

UDT International Finance Ltd
UKF Fertilisers Ltd

Warbridge Investment Co Ltd
Wates Ltd
Wessex Finance Corporation Ltd
West End Provident and Investment Society Ltd
Western Discount Co Ltd
Westminster House and Land Investment Co Ltd
Whitehall Securities Corporation Ltd
Wilkinson Finance Ltd

Yelverton Finance (London) Ltd
Yorkshire Bank Finance Ltd

The following persons held certificates, valid at 30 June 1977 under section 123 of the Companies Act 1967, to the effect that they had satisfied the Department of Trade that they could properly be treated for the purposes of the Moneylenders Acts 1900 to 1927 as being persons bona fide carrying on the business of banking.

African Continental Bank Ltd
Allied Bank International
Amex Bank Ltd
Anglo-Continental Trust Ltd (in liquidation)
Anglo-Eastern Bank Ltd

Banco do Estado de Sao Paulo SA
Bank of Europe Ltd
Bank Fur Gemeinwirtschaft AG
Bank Hapoalim BM
Bank of New Providence Ltd
Bank of New South Wales Savings Bank Ltd
Bank of Scotland Finance Co Ltd
Bank of Tokyo Trust Co, (The)
Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd
Barclays Western Bank Ltd
Barnett, Christie Ltd
Bear Securities Ltd
Beverley Acceptances Ltd
Boston Trust and Savings Ltd
Bowmaker Ltd
Bremar Holdings Ltd
Brook Securities and Co Ltd
Brown Harriman and International Banks Ltd
Burlington Investments Ltd
Burston Finance Ltd (in liquidation)

Cannon Street Acceptances Ltd (in liquidation)
Capitol Consumer and Commercial Finance Ltd
C. E. Coates and Co Ltd
Cedar Holdings Ltd
Central Trustee Savings Bank Ltd
Chancery Trust Ltd
Chase Manhattan Ltd
Citibank Trust Ltd
Citicorp International Bank Ltd
Cleveland Guaranty Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd
Commercial Bank of Malawi Ltd
Commercial Bank of Wales Ltd
Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia
Concorde Trust Ltd
Consolidated Credits and Discounts Ltd
Co-operative Commercial Bank Ltd
Copleys Bank Ltd
Corinthian Securities Ltd
Credit Suisse White Weld Ltd
Credito Italiano SpA
Cripps Warburg Ltd
David Samuel Trust Ltd (in liquidation)
Dawnay Day and Co Ltd
Drayton Corporation Ltd
Duboff Brothers Ltd
Dunbar and Co Ltd

Eagil Trust Co Ltd
Edward Bates and Sons Ltd
E. S. Schwab and Co Ltd
European Brazilian Bank Ltd

First Chicago Ltd
First Fortune Ltd
First International Bancshares Ltd
First London Securities Ltd
First Maryland Ltd
First National Bank in Dallas
First National Finance Corporation Ltd
First National Securities Ltd

G. R. Dawes and Co Ltd
G. T. Whyte and Co Ltd (in liquidation)
Goode Durrant Trust Ltd
Gray Dawes and Co Ltd
Gresham Trust Ltd
Greyhound Guaranty Ltd
Grindlays Bank (Scotland) Ltd

Havana International Bank Ltd
Henry Ansbacher and Co Ltd
Heritable and General Investment Bank Ltd
HFC Trust Ltd
Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Ltd
Hume Corporation Ltd

Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd, (The)
Industrial Bank of Scotland Ltd
Investitions-Und Handels-Bank AG
Iran Overseas Investment Bank Ltd
Italian International Bank Ltd

Jacobs Kroll and Co Ltd (in liquidation)
Japan International Bank Ltd
Julian S. Hodge and Co Ltd
Julius Baer International Ltd

Knowsley and Co Ltd

Lloyds Associated Banking Co Ltd
Lloyds and Scottish Trust Ltd
Lombard North Central Ltd
London and County Securities Ltd (in liquidation)
London and European Finance and Investment Ltd
London Capital Securities Ltd
London Mercantile Corporation Ltd
Medens Trust Ltd
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd
Mitsubishi Bank Ltd, (The)

National Commercial Bank Ltd
National Union Bank Ltd
N. H. Woolley and Co Ltd
Nordic Bank Ltd
North Carolina National Bank
Northern Commercial Trust Ltd
Northern Trust Co (The)
Norwich General Trust Ltd

P. S. Refson and Co Ltd
People's Bank Ltd (The)
Philipp Brothers and Joseph Ltd

Raphael, Robinson and Glyn
Red Dragon Securities Ltd
Republic National Bank of Dallas
Republic National Bank of New York
Robert Fraser and Partners Ltd
Royal Bank of Canada Trust Corporation Ltd (The)
Royal Trust Company of Canada, (The)

Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd
St Margarets Finance Ltd
Schlesinger Ltd
Security Trust Company Ltd
Societe Generale (France) Bank Ltd
Standard Chartered Merchant Bank Ltd
Sterling Credit Ltd
Sterling Industrial Securities Ltd

Thames Guaranty Ltd (in liquidation)
Trade Development Bank
Trucanda Trusts Ltd
Twentieth Century Banking Corporation Ltd

United Dominions Trust Ltd
United International Bank Ltd

Vavasseur Trust Co Ltd, (The)
Vernons Trust Corporation

Wallace Brothers Bank Ltd
Wells Fargo Ltd
Whiteaway, Laidlaw and Co Ltd
Williams, Glyn and Co
Wintrust Securities Ltd

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters, and subscription inquiries and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Protection of Depositors Act 1963

The following companies are recognised by the Secretary of State for Trade as banking or discount companies for the purposes of the Protection of Depositors Act 1963 (as amended) as at 30 June 1977. Companies marked with an asterisk are also recognised as banking or discount companies for the purposes of schedule 8 to the Companies Act 1948 (as amended).

*Alexanders Discount Co Ltd
Algemene Bank Nederland NV
*Allen, Harvey and Ross Ltd
Allied Bank International
Allied Irish Banks Ltd
*American Express International Banking Corporation
Amex Bank Ltd
*Antony Gibbs Holdings Ltd
*A. P. Bank Ltd
*Arbuthnot Latham and Co Ltd
*Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd

Banca Commerciale Italiana SpA
Banca Nazionale del Lavoro SpA
*Banco de Bilbao
*Banco de Santander
Banco do Brasil SA
*Banco Espanol en Londres SA
Banco Urquijo Hispano Americano Ltd
Bank Hapoalim BM
*Bank Leumi (UK) Ltd
Bank Melli Iran
*Bank of Adelaide, (The)
Bank of America International Ltd
*Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association
*Bank of Cyprus (London) Ltd
*Bank of India
Bank of Ireland
*Bank of London and South America Ltd
*Bank of Montreal
*Bank of New South Wales
*Bank of New Zealand
*Bank of Nova Scotia, (The)
Bank of Scotland
Bank of Scotland Finance Co Ltd
*Bank of Tokyo Ltd, (The)
*Bankers Trust Co
*Banque Belge Ltd
*Banque Belgo-Zairosie SA
*Banque de L'Indochine et de Suez
Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, SA
*Banque de Suez (UK) Ltd
*Banque Nationale de Paris Ltd
*Banque pour le Commerce Continental
Barclays Bank Ltd
*Barclays Bank International Ltd
Barclays Merchant Bank Ltd
*Baring Brothers and Co Ltd
*British Bank of the Middle East, (The)
*Brown Shipley and Co Ltd

*Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
*Cater Ryder and Co Ltd
Central Bank of India
*Charterhouse, Japhet Ltd
*Chase Manhattan Bank NA, (The)
Chemical Bank
*C. Hoare and Co
*Citibank NA
City National Bank of Detroit
*Clive Discount Co Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd
*Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd, (The)
*Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd, (The)
*Commercial Bank of the Near East Ltd, (The)
Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago
Co-operative Bank Ltd
County Bank Ltd
Coutts and Co
Coutts Finance Co
*Credit Industriel et Commercial
*Credit Lyonnais
Credito Italiano SpA
Crocker National Bank

Dai Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd
Daiwa Bank Ltd, (The)
Detroit Bank and Trust Co, (The)
Dow Banking Corporation

European Banking Co Ltd
European Brazilian Bank Ltd

*First National Bank of Boston
*First National Bank of Chicago, (The)
First Pennsylvania Bank NA
First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee
Forward Trust Ltd
Fuji Bank Ltd, (The)

*Gerrard and National Discount Co Ltd
*Gillett Brothers Discount Co Ltd
Girard Trust Bank
Gray Dawes and Co Ltd
*Grindlay Brandts Ltd
*Grindlays Bank Ltd
*Guiness Mahon and Co Ltd

*Habib Bank Ltd
*Hambros Bank Ltd
Harris Trust and Savings Bank
*Hill, Samuel and Co Ltd
*Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, (The)

International Commercial Bank Ltd
*International Westminster Bank Ltd
*Ionian Bank Ltd
Irving Trust Co
Italian International Bank Ltd

Japan International Bank Ltd
*Jessel, Toynbee and Co Ltd
*J. Henry Schroder Wagg and Co Ltd
Johnson Matthey Bankers Ltd
Julian S. Hodge and Co Ltd
Julius Baer International Ltd

*Keyser Ullmann Ltd
*King and Shaxson Ltd
*Kleinwort Benson Ltd

*Lazard Brothers and Co Ltd
*Leopold Joseph and Sons Ltd
*Lewis's Bank Ltd
Lloyds Associated Banking Co Ltd
Lloyds Bank Ltd
*Lloyds Bank International Ltd
*Lloyds Bank International (France) Ltd
Lombard North Central Ltd
London and Continental Bankers Ltd
London Multinational Bank Ltd

*Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co
Marine Midland Bank
*Mellon Bank NA
*Mercantile Bank Ltd
Mercantile Credit Co Ltd
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd
Midland Bank Ltd
*Midland and International Banks Ltd
Mitsui Bank Ltd
*Morgan Grenfell and Co Ltd
*Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York
*Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd

*National Bank of Australasia Ltd, (The)
National Bank of Detroit
*National Bank of Greece SA
*National Bank of New Zealand Ltd, (The)
*National Commercial and Glyns Ltd
National Westminster Bank Ltd
*Nedbank Ltd
*N. M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd
Nordic Bank Ltd
Northern Trust Company of Chicago

Orion Bank Ltd
*Ottoman Bank

*Rea Brothers Ltd
Republic National Bank of Dallas
*Royal Bank of Canada, (The)
Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd, (The)

Saitama Bank Ltd, (The)
*Samuel Montagu and Co Ltd
Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd
*Sanwa Bank Ltd, (The)
Scandinavian Bank Ltd
*Seccombe Marshall and Campion Ltd
Security Pacific National Bank
*S. G. Warburg and Co Ltd
*Singer and Friedlander Ltd
*Slater, Walker Ltd
*Smith, St Aubyn and Co Ltd
*Societe Generale pour Favoriser le Developement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France SA
*Standard Chartered Bank Ltd, (The)
*State Bank of India
Sumitomo Bank Ltd, (The)
*Swiss Bank Corporation

Tokai Bank Ltd, (The)
*Toronto-Dominion Bank, (The)

*Union Bank of Switzerland
*Union Discount Company of London Ltd, (The)
*United Bank Ltd
United Dominions Trust Ltd
United International Bank Ltd

Wells Fargo Ltd
Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale
Western American Bank (Europe) Ltd
Williams, Glyn and Co
Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd

*Yorkshire Bank Ltd

Degree day service: figures for June

Degree day figures for June, published by the Department of Energy, are shown below. This service is designed to help industry and commerce improve the efficiency with which space systems are used. Over 1600 organisations, ranging from hospitals to chemical plants, now use the service. Such has been the interest that the Department of Energy is asking all those who take the statistics to say what fuel savings are being made and whether they feel that any changes should be made to the service.

The figures are a record of the extent and length of time in a particular month that the external temperature fell below a base figure of 15.5 degrees C (60 degrees F). Because this affects the amount of fuel needed to provide a given level of space heating the figures can be used to check on the efficiency of heating systems. By comparing the amount of fuel used with the number of degree days in monthly periods of different years, energy managers and others can monitor the performance of heating plant and operate it more economically.

Detailed information about the system is contained in a free booklet *Degree Days* (No. 7 in the Fuel Efficiency series) available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 3394. It explains the theory and practice of using the figures and contains a map showing the locations of the 17 Meteorological Office stations and the regions covered.

JUNE DEGREE DAYS (BASE TEMPERATURE 15.5 DEGREES C)

Region	Calculated average for June 1957/76	June 1976	June 1977
Thames Valley	47	22	81
South East	74	42	99
Southern	68	44	104
South West	58	36	84
Severn Valley	56	32	99
Midland	76	54	123
West Pennines	66	44	101
North West	82	58	107
Borders	106	78	150
North East	76	56	117
East Pennines	66	54	105
East Anglia	71	40	105
West Scotland	83	65	108
East Scotland	100	65	132
North East Scotland	111	75	149
Wales	80	60	119
Northern Ireland	86	51	116

Official appointments

Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency: Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has reappointed Mr G. G. Carroll, Miss V. Di Palma, Mr R. G. Douglas, Mr R. A. Pycroft and Mr G. Skelton for a further period of two years as members of the agency.

East Midlands Electricity Consultative Council: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr A. J. Sanders as deputy chairman of the East Midlands Electricity Consultative Council until 30 June 1980.

Midlands Electricity Consultative Council: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr J. C. Silverthorne as deputy chairman of the Midlands Electricity Consultative Council until 30 June 1980.

Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Consultative Council: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Councillor G. W. Roberts and Mr M. Hayes as members of the Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Consultative Council until 31 March 1980.

New publications

New technology-based firms

From a new report prepared for the Anglo German Foundation by the consultants, Arthur D. Little, comes the comment: 'In the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic [of Germany], only a minute fraction of government R & D expenditure is available to, or actually received by, NTBFs (new technology-based firms). This issue has attracted virtually no attention in the United Kingdom, whereas in the Federal Republic there has been substantial criticism . . .'.

The report, which has the express purpose of making a comparative assessment of the environment for NTBFs in the UK and the FDR, goes on to say 'there has been little concerted effort in the United Kingdom or the Federal Republic to create a favourable climate for the establishment and development of NTBFs'.

Apart from the introduction and summary, the report breaks down into five main areas: the national R & D systems; the importance of new-technology based firms; the crucial role of venture capital; taxation and forms of incorporation; and an examination of the patent system. Selected case histories conclude the main text and five appendices focus on various aspects of the commercial and financial structures of the United Kingdom and West German company context in which the relevant types of enterprise operate.

This volume is particularly well organised around its central theme and is fully illustrated with tabulations and charts, all of which assist in the presentation of much topical and hitherto scattered information.

New Technology-Based Firms in the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany, by Arthur D. Little Ltd. (323 pages. Distributed in the UK on behalf of the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industrial Society by Wilton House Publications. 1977. £15.00. ISBN 0 905492 04 8.)

Relevance of theory to practice

A new book has been published based on experience of the difficulties of teaching economics to first-year social science students. The author, a senior lecturer in economics at the University of York has produced a structurally original and problem-orientated text which lifts this introductory guide above the level of so many introductions to economics. His achievement is showing the relevance of theory to policy, and how this theory can be applied to particular policy problems.

The volume's three main parts are methodology, macro-economic policy, and micro-economic policy. They include a unique emphasis on the economics of politics and bureaucracies as an explanation of UK policies. Subjects examined and considered include human capital and search theory, utility maximising and labour-managed firms (workers co-operatives), as well as the economics of subsidy policy.

The topics selected are all derived from the policy objectives of successive British governments; a feature which gives the book a useful additional dimension. Although intended primarily as a student text, this volume will absorb many others whose interests and duties brings them into contact with the themes covered.

Problems of Economic Policy, by Keith Hartley. Economics and Society Series no. 3. (233 pages. Allen and Unwin. 1977. £5.50. ISBN 0 04 339008 0 (cloth); £2.95. ISBN 0 04 339009 9 (paper).)

Changes in production control

Since the publication in 1969 of *Production Control is Management* fundamental changes in the field of production control have occurred. The basic approach and methods of production control have altered rapidly, primarily because of the widespread introduction of computer technology. So a new edition of this 1969 handbook, now under a different title, seeks to incorporate these new developments.

In two sections the book deals with production control as part of management, and then describes some basic techniques in detail. A chapter on the important subject of group technology is also included.

The text is amply illustrated with diagrams. A bibliography is not included, but there is an index, plus a useful glossary of terms used in production control.

This is a much needed revision of a textbook very useful to both students of management science and to those in business and industry who are directly concerned with the management of production.

Production Control in Engineering, by Dennis K. Corke. (257 pages. Edward Arnold Ltd, 25 Hill Street, London W1X 8LL. 1977. £7.95. ISBN 0 7131 3380 5.)

Maintenance management

The importance of effective maintenance management in reducing total industrial costs is emphasised in a recent study by T. M. Husband. It gives the general reader an overall view of the subject, and provides a set of action plans designed to be of immediate practical assistance to the busy manager.

The author highlights some of the current weaknesses in the way maintenance is organised and managed. He points out the value of applying orthodox management techniques to maintenance, for example planned maintenance and the proper training and motivation of maintenance managers and employees.

Although the book is largely about maintenance, the author goes on to set it into the larger and relatively new concept of terotechnology – which is officially defined as 'a combination of management, financial, engineering and other practices applied to physical assets in pursuit of economic life-cycle costs' – in which the role of the maintenance manager is integrated into a system of general management. Brief case histories of the application of the practice in the United Kingdom, Italy and West Germany are also provided. The author concludes that the term itself is an awkward one, which may have tended to alienate the engineers and managers it was designed to attract. Nevertheless the very promotion of the term has been useful since it has generated debate and discussion on the importance of total resource management to industrial effectiveness.

Maintenance, management and terotechnology, by T. M. Husband. (182 pages. Saxon House. 1976. £8.25. ISBN 0 566 00146 2.)

Uses of the Celtic Sea

The sea, particularly to a country such as Britain, has never been more important. The problems of over-fishing, of oil and mineral extraction, of effluent disposal and pollution and of shipping make frequent headlines.

Following their very successful publication, *The North Sea: Challenge and Opportunity*, the David Davies Memorial Institute of International Studies has now published, through Europa Publications, the report of an oceanic management conference held at University College of Swansea in September 1975. This time the Celtic Sea and other western waters were discussed.

The papers given at this conference, to quote Professor R. B. Clark's introduction, 'contribute the background papers for the study group, which will in due course formulate its recommendations for legislation and international agreement, as it did for the North Sea'. Between them, the papers cover a very wide subject area, and it is all the more unfortunate that, unlike its predecessor, the book has been published without an index. Its value as a reference book is therefore considerably impaired.

Oceanic Management: conflicting uses of the Celtic Sea and other western UK waters. Report of a conference held at University College, Swansea, 19-22 September 1975. Edited by M. M. Sibthorp assisted by M. Unwin. (236 pages. 1977. Europa Publications Ltd, 18 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JN. £10.00. ISBN 0 905118 05 7.)

MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

A Guide to the Profession

At last a good basic text on management consulting... essential... good to show clients as justification for the way you operate... *(Consultants News)*

...A valuable contribution to the literature which compared with some professions, is still *thin on the ground.* It is not perhaps too much to claim that this publication may soon become a standard work on the subject. It is comprehensive and informative but above all is written with an eye to the present-day conditions, to current events and to the future... *(The Training Officer)*

378 pages, ISBN 92.2.101165.8 £10.00

International Labour Office

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London W1Y 9LA
Tel: 01-499 2084

ILO Publications
CH 1211 GENEVA 22
Switzerland

ENCIRCLE TI 553 ON PAGE 159 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Wembley Auction Sales 1977

2 August 1977

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Service Agency Supplies Stores India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Office and Miscellaneous Furniture etc.
Auctioneers:	Messrs. Hollingsworths Westcombe House 56/58 Whitcomb Street Leicester Square London WC2H 7DR Tel. 01-893 1875

Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available direct from the auctioneers price 20p

ENCIRCLE TI 554 ON PAGE 159 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

Sales by auction

3 and 4 August 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location
The Post House Hotel, Herbert Walker Avenue, Southampton, Hants

Auctioneers
Austin and Wyatt (Dept L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants (tel. 03292 4211/4)

The stores lying at various depots include large quantities of furniture, clothing, textiles and footwear, household effects, suitcases, photographic and optical equipment, engineering equipment, ammunition boxes and jerricans, MT spares and tyres, fork lift trucks and many other items.

10 August 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location
The Embassy Suite, Balkerne Lane, Colchester

Auctioneers
Fenn Wright Garrod Turner (Dept L), 146 High Street, Colchester (tel. 0206 46161)

The stores lying at various depots include an International Harvester TD8 tractor, vehicles and MT spares, lathes, machine and hand tools, scrap metals, and a large quantity of furniture, carpets, clothing and textiles, and electronic equipment.

Safety of Loads on Vehicles

Code of Practice

People are too often killed or injured in accidents caused by badly secured loads falling off lorries. Carrying a load safely to satisfy the broad terms of the law is the responsibility of everyone in road transport and this code gives full guidance as to how loads should be secured, and needless casualties avoided. It is hoped that everyone concerned in the road transport industry will learn from the code and help to make the incidence of a falling load a thing of the past.

30p (by post 39p)

Please send your orders or requests for free lists of titles (specifying subject/s) to Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PM1A (ZTI), Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN.

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers.

See the Bookseller section of Yellow Pages for your nearest stockist of Government publications.

HMSO BOOKS

Technology news

Increase in asbestos analysis at the Laboratory of the Government Chemist

Concern over possible health hazards resulting from asbestos led to greatly increased demand for the Laboratory of the Government Chemist's dust sampling and analysis service, according to the 1976 annual report*, published on 14 July. More than 5000 samples were examined for asbestos last year.

Some building construction materials can raise dust containing asbestos, so surveys were carried out in government buildings to identify the type of asbestos present and determine contamination level, to assess whether a hazard existed to the occupants. A five-fold increase in sample throughput was achieved by using a semi-automatic counting system for asbestos particles.

Among other aspects of the Laboratory's work featured in the report were the tar and nicotine yields of UK cigarettes; two further six-month surveys of tar and nicotine yields of about 110 brands of cigarettes on sale in Britain having been completed. Results published by the Department of Health and Social Security showed continued slow, steady decline in tar and nicotine yields. There was a strong tendency for brands to be withdrawn from the high-tar end of the table, and for new brands to be introduced at the lower end.

Increasing attention was directed towards confirming the presence of antibiotics traces in animal feeding stuffs and identifying antibiotics residues in food. Laboratory staff collaborated with EEC expert committees in evaluating test methods. The Government Chemist expects monitoring schemes eventually to cover all supplies of imported and home-killed meat. Test results can be confused by the presence of naturally-generated substances. These have been investigated, using a variety of analytical techniques.

The report also describes completion of analytical work for revision of 'The Composition of Foods' tables. The tables were formerly compiled by the Medical Research Council. It is the result of collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Council, but analytical work and method development were carried out by the Laboratory of the Government Chemist.

Metrication of spirit duty is now approaching and by 1980 proof spirit will be replaced by percentage of alcohol by volume at 20°C. New glass hydrometers will replace the Sikes brass hydrometers used since 1816, and Laboratory work was directed towards preparing practical alcohol tables for Revenue Officers to use in the field.

The report explains the Laboratory's advisory role and its advsory and information services. The Agricultural Materials Analysis Information Service now incorporates the former Pesticide Residue Analysis Information Service, which was extended to cover fertilisers and animal feeding stuffs. An account is also given of the Chemical Nomenclature Advisory Service which gives advice on correct and unambiguous names for chemicals to government departments, EEC committees and other public bodies.

Advice to analysts concerned with safety regulations under the Consumer Protection Act is the province of the Consumer Hazards Analytical Information Service, while, as its name implies, the Dangerous Goods Advisory Service provides information to government departments on hazards associated with transport of dangerous goods.

In addition to these advisory services the Oil Spillage Analytical and Identification Service analyses samples from oil spills for government departments and other authorities empowered to take action against offenders.

*The Report of the Government Chemist 1976, is published by HMSO, price £3.00.

Malaria vaccine

Dr Harry Richards changing nutrient medium containing dangerous malaria parasites during research into development of the world's first malaria vaccine at Wellcome Research Laboratories in Beckenham. This project, in collaboration with the Medical Research Council and Guy's Hospital Medical School, could mark an advance in eradicating the world's single biggest killer disease. Experiments using a vaccine against the blood form of malaria in monkeys, have been successful in both laboratory and field tests but have not yet been demonstrated in man and many problems have still to be solved before an effective human malaria vaccine becomes a clinical reality.

Encouraging mineral exploration

Assistance totalling £1,507,405 has been approved by the Department of Industry for mineral exploration projects in Great Britain under the Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972 between 24 February 1972, when the act came into force, and 31 March 1977.

The fifth annual report* published on 14 July says 38 companies involved in mineral exploration in 138 areas have applied for assistance totalling £1,771,238. Seventy-five of these projects were in Scotland. The rest were in Wales, South-West England, Northern England and Pennines, and West Midlands.

In the year ended 31 March – covered by the report – eight companies, three British and five overseas firms registered in Britain, applied for £289,154 worth of aid for 15 exploration projects, or further stages of existing projects. Fourteen of these were for non-ferrous exploration and the other for barium minerals.

In addition to assistance which the department has given, a further £263,833 involving 19 projects is still under consideration. Work on 73 projects has been finalised.

The Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972 enables the government to give financial assistance towards exploring for mineral deposits in Great Britain and on the United Kingdom continental shelf. Companies may apply for up to 35 per cent of costs of searching for ores of non-ferrous metals, fluorspar, barium minerals, and potash. This covers exploration and evaluation of a project up to the point where a decision can be taken on commercial viability of an orebody.

Full details of the scope and conditions of the scheme are set out in a booklet entitled 'Financial assistance for mineral exploration in Great Britain: A Guide for Industry', which can be obtained from Department of Industry (PTM2), Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU (tel. 01-211 3409/3704).

*'Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972 Fifth Annual Report to Parliament by the Department of Industry for the period 1 April 1976 to 31 March 1977', is available from HMSO bookshops throughout Britain. Price is 25p a copy (postage 7p).

Internal corrosion of water systems

The Department of Industry, through its corrosion committee is holding a one-day symposium, called 'The Internal Corrosion of Water Systems' for engineers and scientists concerned with reliability of water handling equipment. It will take place on Thursday 26 January, 1978 at the London Press Centre, Shoe Lane, London EC4.

Last summer, because of water shortage, risk of corrosion to plant and equipment increased as a result of enforced changes in sources of cooling water supplies and of increased application of in-plant recycling. In attempting to ensure quantity and availability, insufficient consideration was given to the effect of chemical composition and chemical balance of water supply on plant which was being cooled.

This occurred both when a firm provided its own alternative source of supply, by the use of boreholes and so on, or where water authorities had to use sources which either would not be used normally or would not be used in particular areas. Instances have already arisen of damage to heat exchangers and other cooling systems, and malfunction of automatic water treatment plant set to handle a particular water chemistry.

The keynote paper at the symposium will describe water sources and uses, and their chemical composition. Other papers will discuss how chemical composition of water affects corrosion problems in plant – both ferrous and non-ferrous systems; control of corrosion by choice of materials – including design aspects; paints and surface treatments and codes of practice; control of corrosion by water treatment; plant operation and economic assessment. Three short case study papers will describe actual experience with corrosion in a variety of industrial situations, and methods of avoiding or reducing it.

Mr A. C. Twort, president of the Institution of Water Engineers and Scientists, will chair the morning session. The afternoon session will be chaired by Mr K. A. Chandler, president of the Institution of Corrosion Science and Technology. Both institutions as well as the Institution of Public Health Engineers, Institution of Plant Engineers, Institute of Plumbing, Institution of Works Managers, Society of Chemical Industry, Pipeline Industries Guild and the Association of Consulting Engineers are associated with the Department in promoting the event. Other professional institutions may participate. The Water Companies Association, Cooling Water Association and British Water and Effluent Pre-treatment Plant Association have promised support.

Further details and registration forms from: Department of Industry, Committee on Corrosion Secretariat, Room 540, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 5996.

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Testing infrared imaging systems

A corporate research project funded by six United Kingdom companies has been successfully completed at Sira Institute Ltd. The outcome is a range of test modules to assess the performance of infrared imaging systems.

The equipment is now available from Sira and orders have been received totalling over £100,000 from Europe and the Middle East for the supply of systems, which cost from £15,000 each.

The assessment of conventional optical systems operating in the visual part of the spectrum can be carried out using currently available instruments for measuring the modulation transfer function. In the infrared part of the spectrum, however, special detectors and infrared transmitting materials have had to be used. The modules have been designed so that they can be applied to most existing test benches, which can then be upgraded for measurements in the thermal region of the spectrum.

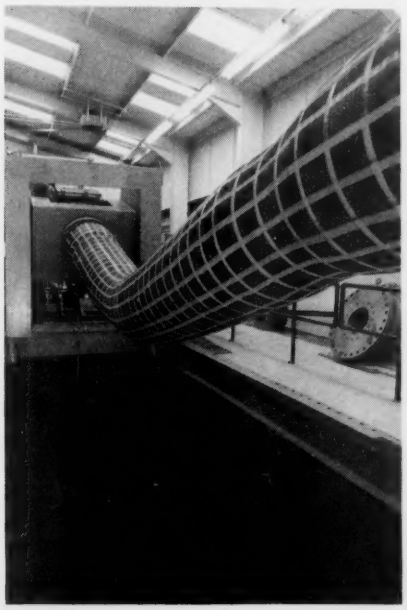
The science of thermography, that is, the visualisation of heat images as, for example, in the diagnosis of skin disorders and for studying areas of heat loss in buildings and furnaces, requires the use of special infrared imaging systems. The lenses required are often made from opaque semiconductor materials such as germanium. As with other lenses, the quality of image formed can still be degraded by the effect of lens aberration and diffraction, so that there is the same need for objective methods for the measurement.

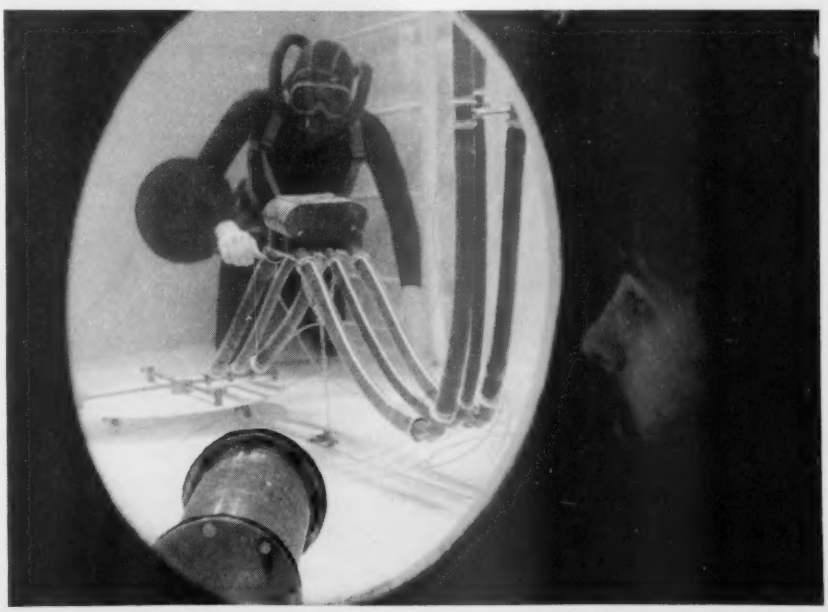
Further information: circle 564

Testing underwater hose

In Grimsby, Dunlop Oil has just opened a £500,000 technical and test complex designed for model hose testing, dynamic testing, prototype manufacture and evaluation. Equipped with a full size lathe for prototype hose design and manufacture, provision has also been made for the installation of X-ray thermography and acoustic emission testing. *Left:* the new dynamic hose test rig, capable of applying axial torsional and bending stress to giant hoses. *Right:* one of two model hose test tanks.

Further information: circle 565





New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Handling hot chlorine

Checking out a high pressure centrifugal fan handling hot chlorine gas. Designed by the Pump Division of A. P. V. Kestner of Greenhithe, the fan is a small but essential part of the Polimex-Cekop Poly Vinyl Chloride manufacturing plant designed and engineered in the UK for construction at Wloclawek in Poland. All parts of the fan which come into contact with the gas are manufactured in Kestner's own thermo-setting plastic which is suitable for handling a wide range of corrosive gases at temperatures of up to 130 °C.

Rectangular silencers

A range of both standard and custom-built rectangular ventilation splitter silencers have been introduced by Ashford Acoustics of Ashford. Suitable for all radiator discharge and inlet operation, and conventional ventilation systems, the range is eminently suited for the diesel generation, and heating and ventilating industries.

The silencers provide reduced noise levels with attenuation of all regenerated noise, for example, dampers, coils, bends and terminal units and fan noise. Similarly, external noise, such as traffic and aircraft can be reduced inside the buildings.

Three standard models are available in various cross-sections and lengths to suit customers' requirements.

Further information: circle 566

Timbers at high speed

A woodworking machine which can handle thin and even brittle timbers at speeds up to 100 metres per minute, has been introduced by Wadkin of Leicester.

The machine, known as the FBN 230 high speed heavy duty planer and moulder, is one of a range of three designed primarily for saw-mills, but suitable for all sections of the wood-working industry.

Further information: circle 567

Bifocal contact lenses

For the first time, soft contact lenses which give both long and short distance viewing are available for people who would otherwise need to wear bifocal spectacles or suffer the inconvenience of changing contact lenses frequently. Developed by Focus Contact Lens Laboratory Ltd, of Watford, the soft lens combines comfort in wear with the convenience of bifocals.

Dyeing machine

A low-liquor fabric dyeing unit developed by Samuel Pegg of Leicester, is claimed to reduce the cost of raising steam by over 300 per cent compared with conventional winch dyeing machines. It also offers corresponding savings in water, effluent and dyestuffs.

Designed to offer a range of capacities up to 300 kg, the Fablo has a single programme control panel with from one to four dyeing units each capable of handling 75 kg of fabrics while occupying little more space than a conventional sample winch dyer.

The machine will handle cotton, acrylics, nylons and wools, both knitted and woven. A novel addition tank solves the problems normally associated with adding salts to re-active dyes during the dyeing cycle. Mounted alongside the dye bath, it contains a fixed conical mesh container into which the salts are placed. Liquor is then sprayed through the salts into the tank and passed into the dye bath, ensuring that the salts are totally dissolved.

The unit has a heating rate of between 5 to 6 °C per minute. Fabric circulation is unusual for a winch dyeing unit, in that the fabric is pulled from the bath by the creel and pro-jected to the back of the machine by a flow assistor. Here it slides slowly down to the base of the machine, ready to be re-circulated in a similar manner.

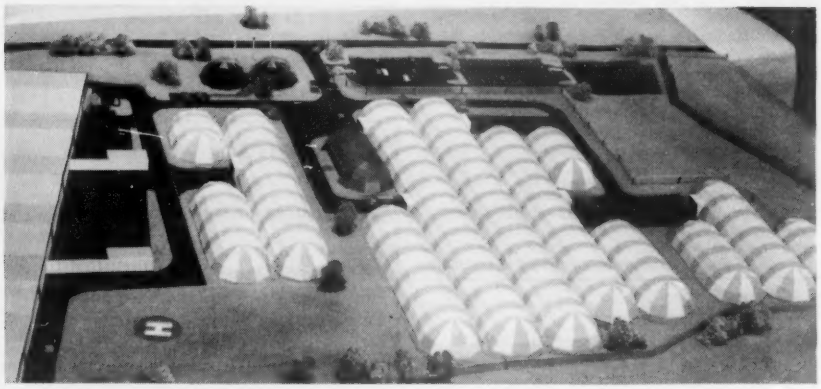
Further information: circle 568

Elevator

During roofing construction savings in time have been achieved using this M and S Elevator from Rearden Plant Ltd of Chorley.

Further information: circle 569

Model buildings



A model of the industrial development planned for Glenrothes New Town, Fife. More than half of the industrial premises planned by Aberglen Holdings Ltd of Aberdeen for their 20-acre site at Woodside, Glenrothes, will be accommodated in this type of building. Given planning approval, this will involve huge hemispherical buildings capable of rapid on-site construction. Known as Orbits Structures, the structural framework is aluminium, stabilised by simple anchor plates. The light-weight cladding is in tough, heavy duty material with a plastic coating, slotted into the metal framework to provide a translucent and colourful building that is assembled relatively quickly.

Further information: circle 570

Audio-visual training for keyboard operators

Filmstrip audio-visual training techniques for keyboard operators have been developed by Keyboard Training of Epsom. A system for those working with computers and in accounting, encoding, data processing and many other areas, has now been launched by associated company Keytrainer Ltd.

It looks like a portable television set and screens 'still' pictures that change automatically in time with synchronised commentary. It can be used with or without earphones.

Like KTL's other systems, Keytrainer teaches keyboarding technique. Users report that speed and ability are improved and errors are reduced.

Further information: circle 571

High stability marine receiver

A new high stability member of the 1830 series of receivers has been introduced by Eddystone Radio Ltd, a GEC-Marconi Electronics company. Known as the type 1837/1, this equipment is designed specifically for use as a maritime system. The 1837/1 covers the frequency range 100 khz to 30 MHz, in nine ranges and is intended for use as a ship's main and reserve receiver. It can also be employed in coastal stations as part of a shore-to-ship communication system.

The 1837/1 has been designed to be as economical as possible within the marine main receiver specification and is technically and ergonomically tailored to fit the maritime requirements. A digital frequency display is provided to give non-ambiguous read-out and a continuous tuning system allows absolute freedom for search purposes.

Operation is simple and once the required range has been selected (nine different ranges are available), the receiver is operated in the 'search' mode as a normal medium stability receiver, the frequency being displayed on the digital read-out.

Further information: circle 572

Waste compactor

Anchorpac of Amersham has designed a medium size static waste compaction system to handle and control the refuse generated by smaller commercial and industrial businesses with up to 2600 cubic metres of unsegregated waste to dispose of weekly.

The static P-811 compactor, with a throughput of 65 cubic metres per hour, provides an alternative to traditional open skip disposal methods.

Waste fed through the compactor is reduced normally in the region of 5:1 to a fraction of its former bulk and is then passed through into closed containers for final transportation to the nearest landfill tip or incinerator.

Anchorpac has designed an integral power unit for the P-811 system and a control panel which can be mounted either on, or adjacent, to the compactor, which allows either manual or automatic sequencing of the machine.

The high ram face pressure of 3 kgm per square centimetre allows all compactable waste to be processed. The total ram thrust is 19 500 kgs and the fast cycle time of 38 seconds, plus the large loading aperture of 1 m by 1.45 m, makes the machine suitable for handling even the largest cartons nomally encountered.

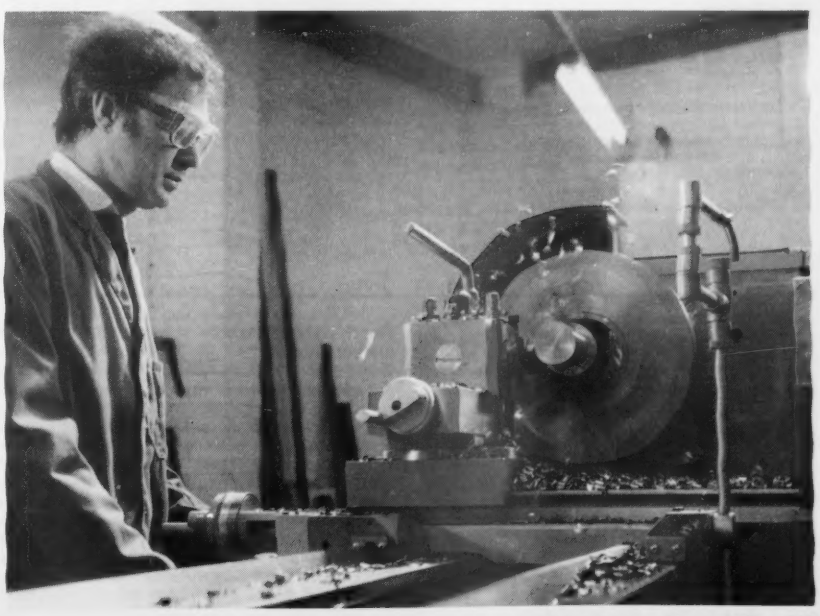
Optional extras include side or rear cart loaders and hoppers, hand rail and steps, keyswitch, sonic start, remote control and container early warning.

Further information: circle 574

Metric centre lathes

The M 500 centre lathe introduced by T. S. Harrison and Sons Ltd. The exceptionally high rates of metal removal of which the machine is capable call for a specially constructed heavy gauge steel plinth to ensure rigidity in operation.

Further information: circle 573



Parliament

Monday, 11 July

Tobacco consumption

Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked for a table showing the consumption of tobacco, per head of the population in the United Kingdom and the United States of America, Ireland, Norway and Denmark.

Mr Meacher gave the latest available information, as follows:

TOBACCO CONSUMPTION — Pounds weight per head of population

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
United Kingdom	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.7
United States	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.7
Ireland	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6
Norway	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8
Denmark	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.2

Source:
Tobacco Research Council (Research Paper No. 6).
Business Monitor PQ 240 provides an alternative and more up to date source for the UK.
The corresponding figure for 1973 is 5.0, for 1974 4.9, for 1975 4.5, and for 1976 4.4 lbs per head of population.

International comparison of home and export prices

Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked for estimates for the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and the United States of America, in index number form for the years 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975 and 1976 of: (a) the export prices of manufactured products, (b) the domestic wholesale prices of manufactured produce, (c) labour costs per unit of output, and (d) the ratio of the dollar price of their manufactured exports to a dollar index of world export prices and manufactures, to be noted in local currency.

Mr Huckfield gave the information expressed in index form, as follows:

	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1976
Export unit value indices for manufactured goods in domestic currencies						
UK	65	72	79	100	193	234
FR of Germany	88	94	97	100	131	134
Japan	93	97	88	100	195	195
USA	69	81	84	100	159	170
Source: UN Monthly Bulletin of Statistics.						
Domestic wholesale prices of manufactured produce						
UK	67	74	83	100	189	220
FR of Germany	88	88	94	100	136	141
Japan	86	88	90	100	157	165
USA	80	86	88	100	158	166
Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators. IMF International Financial Statistics.						
Labour cost per unit of output in manufacturing except as shown						
UK	63	70	79	100	197	221
FR of Germany	n.a.	n.a.	83	100	143	141[1]
Japan	74	78	96	100	192	186[2]
USA	80	89	85	100	127	128
[1] Mining and manufacturing. [2] All industry						
Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators.						
Ratio of the dollar price of manufactured exports to world price of exports of manufactures						
UK	0.94	0.98	1.03	1.00	0.97	0.96
FR of Germany	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.07	1.07
Japan	1.18	1.16	0.99	1.00	0.98	0.97
USA	0.87	0.96	0.94	1.00	0.87	0.93
Source: UN Monthly Bulletin of Statistics.						

Hotel development incentive scheme

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked what was estimated to be the total cost of the hotel development incentive scheme at the time of the passing of the Development of Tourism Act 1969; and what the scheme had finally cost.

Mr Meacher said that the financial memorandum associated with the passage of the statute had stated that the future rate could not be closely estimated but that it was possible that annual expenditure could rise to about £8 million. The first year of effective expenditure had been 1970-71. Actual expenditure to the end of the last financial year had been about £57 million. A handful of claims were still outstanding.

North Atlantic textile airfreight rate

David Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make representations to reinstate the North Atlantic textile airfreight rate, which had been cancelled following the renegotiation of the Bermuda agreement.

Mr Clinton Davis said that representations had been made to the United States government about the CAB's rejection of British Airways' contract rates and bulk commodity rates. Their action was not the result of renegotiation of the Bermuda agreement and the tariffs article of the new agreement would help to avoid such disputes in future.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Exports of motor cars and some other machinery

John Garrett (Norwich South) asked for Great Britain's share of world exports of: (a) motor cars, (b) construction and mining machinery and (c) office machinery in 1956 and in 1976.

Mr Meacher gave the UK percentage share of the value of OECD member countries' relevant exports measured in US dollars.

	1956	1975
Motor cars (SITC 732.1)	22.0	4.4
Construction and mining machinery (SITC 718.4 and 719.31)	12.2	8.2
Office machinery (including computers) (SITC 714)	13.2	11.3

Source:
OECD Statistics of Foreign Trade and UN Commodity Trade Statistics. Figures for world exports of these commodities are not available. OECD members account for about 80 per cent of world exports of manufactures.

Exports of machinery

Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test) asked for the increase in United Kingdom exports of machinery in the three months February to April 1977 compared with the same period in 1976; and the comparable figures for the United States of America, Germany, Japan, France, Italy, Belgium and Holland.

Mr Meacher gave the latest available information as follows:

EXPORTS OF MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (SITC SECTION 7)
Per cent change in the latest three months on the same period a year earlier

	Per cent	Period
UK	5.0	Feb-Apr 1977
USA	5.4	Feb-Apr 1977
FRG	25.7	Nov 1976-Jan 1977
Japan	32.0	Dec 1976-Feb 1977
France	11.9	Dec 1976-Feb 1977
Italy	9.5	Oct 1976-Dec 1977
Belgium	28.9	Oct 1976-Dec 1977
Holland	51.4	Nov 1976-Jan 1977

Source:
OECD Statistics of Foreign Trade Series A, June 1977.
Up-to-date information on machinery alone was not available.

Trade with Israel
Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked for a statement on the recent trade figures for trade with Israel.

Mr Meacher said that over the 12 month period to the end of May 1977 exports to Israel had increased in value by 5 per cent over the previous corresponding period. The value of total trade between the UK and Israel had increased over the same period by 17 per cent.

Steel imports
Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, when he expected to be informed of the result of the investigation into the imports of tool steel from Sweden which had been announced on 9 May, and when he would learn the results of current consideration of the importation of steel sections and flats from Japan.

Mr Meacher explained that, with regard to Sweden, because this investigation had not been completed when responsibility for anti-dumping action passed to the European Commission on 1 July, the government was now considering with the industry the question of the submission of the case to Brussels.

A substantive duty of £11 per tonne had been imposed on 7 July on non-alloy steel light sections from Japan, following his department's completion of its investigation into claims that this product was being imported into the UK from Japan at dumped prices. The evidence concerning imports of non-alloy steel flat bars from Japan was currently being evaluated and an announcement would be made shortly.

EEC: recognition of qualifications
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked whether proposals were still being considered by the EEC for the mutual recognition of qualifications and freedom of establishment, throughout the Community, of architects, nurses, midwives, dentists, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, chartered accountants and financial advisers; and what stage discussion upon any proposals had reached in the case of each profession.

Mr Clinton Davis pointed out that the Treaty of Rome already provided for freedom of establishment throughout the community. However, differences in the qualifications required for the pursuit of a variety of professions and in the arrangements which govern professional activities in the member states could impede free establishment. The commission had therefore proposed, and would continue to propose, measures designed to promote the mutual recognition of professional qualifications. Responsibility for the consideration and negotiation of draft directives rested in this country with the government department which sponsored the profession concerned.

Profession	Secretary of State Minister responsible	Stage reached
Architects	Environment	Draft directive under consideration by Council Working Group
Nurses	Social Services	Two directives on general nurses were adopted by the council on 27 June 1977
Midwives	Social Services	Draft directives under consideration by Council Working Group
Dentists	Social Services	Draft directives under consideration by Council Working Group
Pharmacists	Social Services	Draft directives which were put to the council by the commission in 1969 have been formally withdrawn. The commission is expected to put forward further proposals to the council during 1977
Veterinary surgeons	Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	Draft directive under consideration by Council Working Group
Chartered accountants financial advisers	Trade	The commission is thought to be considering producing a proposal on this subject; they are already working on one on auditors' qualifications.

European Commission
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked whether the European Commission had been consulted or informed about the government's decision to widen the differential in regional selective financial assistance in favour of special development areas before the decision; and, if so, what had been their response.

Mr Williams replied that the commission had been notified, in accordance with obligations under Articles 92-94 of the Treaty of Rome, of the intention to increase the level of aid available in special development areas. The commission had raised no objections to the proposed changes, on the understanding that the commission ceilings on aid would continue to be observed.

Council of Ministers
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked how many meetings of the Council of Ministers, ministers from the Department of Industry had attended or presided over during the period of Great Britain's presidency of the EEC; and what advances in European industrial policy had been made during this period.

Mr Williams replied that there had been no meetings of the Council of Ministers to discuss industrial policy matters. Progress in European industrial policy in a number of areas had been carried forward at official level.

The Minister of State for Industry had chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers (Research) on 28 and 29 March. The meeting had been also attended by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry.

Burdens and benefits of surveys
David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, in view of the small proportion of companies engaged in manufacturing construction and distribution which benefited from the results of comprehensive censuses carried out by his department and of the proportion of such companies who found that the time taken up in dealing with requirements for censuses had a damaging effect on their ability to run their businesses efficiently, if he would review this activity of his department.

Mr Huckfield explained that all statistical inquiries were kept under continuous review to ensure the burden of form-filling on the business community was kept to a minimum consistent with fulfilling requirements and statutory obligations under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, and to the European economic communities.

Orders for Polish ships
Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked what progress had been made in placing orders for Polish ships in British shipyards; and, in particular, what orders were being placed in Sunderland shipyards.

Mr Kaufman replied that a negotiating team had gone to Warsaw again last week to continue negotiations for this important deal. But he could not be expected to disclose any of the commercial details at this stage of the negotiations, nor was it possible at this stage to say to which yards orders would be allocated.

British Aerospace Corporation
Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he had yet approved a capital investment programme for the British Aerospace Corporation.

Mr Kaufman said British Aerospace's capital investment programme would be covered in its corporate plan: the first plan had to be formulated in 1978.

Tourist facilities
Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he was satisfied that adequate facilities existed for coping with the present levels of incoming tourists; and what action was he taking, independently and in co-ordination with local authorities and other interested parties, to effect improvements.

Mr Meacher said that the facilities used by incoming tourists included transport, hotels, restaurants, shops, theatres and other amenities of this country. Responsibility for these was very widely spread and, whilst not all were as adequate as one might wish, there was a general endeavour to provide good service. The government supported this as appropriate. For instance, proposals had been announced on 20 May to establish three new tourism growth points and in pursuance of this consultations had begun with local authorities and other interested parties about proposals to expand tourism facilities in the High Pennines.

EEC approval of sectoral schemes
Max Madden (Sowerby) asked on what date EEC Regional Commissioners had approved Great Britain's various sectoral schemes.

Mr Williams said all Sectoral Schemes proposed under Section 8 of the Industry Act, 1972 were discussed with the EEC Commission under normal community procedures. The Commission had indicated its agreement to the various sectoral schemes operating in the UK shortly before each had been launched.

Tuesday, 12 July

Using Northolt air space
Carol Mather (Esher) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would give consideration to the use of Northolt air space for air routes from Heathrow.

Mr Clinton Davis said he was advised by the Civil Aviation Authority that use of Northolt air space by Heathrow traffic was not practicable as it would add to routeing problems in an already complex area.

Small firms information centres
Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked how many people were employed at each of the small firms information centres; what was the total cost per annum of each of the centres; and if he would publish a breakdown of the types of inquiries received by the centres.

Mr Cryer said of the small firms information centres, nine employed three staff each, whilst the London centre employed four. The total cost per annum of each of the centres was not available but the total cost of the service to public funds for the financial year 1976/77 had been approximately £496,000. The types of inquiries from established businesses handled by centres during the first six months of this year had been: management aspects 36.2 per cent, finance and financial control 7.3 per cent, technical problems 1.7 per cent, guidance on government regulation, policies or state agencies 31 per cent, local government 4 per cent and source of supply 19.8 per cent.

Around 30 per cent arose through small firms involved in manufacturing; 52 per cent from service industries and 18 per cent from individuals wishing to start in business.

Co-operative development agency
John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many times the working party considering the establishment of a co-operative development agency had met; and when he expected to report.

Mr Cryer said the joint working group to examine proposals for establishing a CDA had been set up last March by the Minister of State for Industry, Alan Williams. It had met on six occasions and a seventh meeting would be held later this month. He hoped that the group would complete its study shortly and present its report and recommendations to the government early in the summer recess.

Plants closed by British Steel Corporation
Mrs Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many plants were being closed by the British Steel Corporation; and which they were.

Mr Huckfield said that Reinforcement Steel Services at Greenwich had closed on 8 July; and Redpath Dorman Long's Redcar works was due to close later in the month. BSC were consulting the workforce about the closure of the Llanwern pipe mill and Barrow No. 1 mill. Other plants where consultations with the workforces about closure were now proceeding had been included in Lord Beswick's statements of 4 February and 6 August 1975 which were made after lengthy consultations with all concerned.

Exemptions from form-filling
John Farr (Harborough) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make arrangements in the case of a company with under 50 employees for form PA 922 to

be compiled biannually instead of annually under the provisions of section 2 of the Statistics of Trade Act 1947.

Mr Huckfield commented that it was obligatory for EEC purposes to require firms employing 20 or more persons to provide information each year.

British Steel Corporation

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, in view of the critical position of the British steel industry, what measures he was taking to assist the British Steel Corporation.

Mr Huckfield said that subject to parliament granting the necessary powers, it was intended to make finance available to the corporation in the current financial year within a cash limit of £950 million. The government had also the corporation's interests to the fore in discussions on community steel policy.

Port authorities and the price code

Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, why he had not accepted the representations made to the government by the National Ports Council to exempt port authorities from the price code.

Mr Maclennan pointed out that in the Consultative Document on prices policy (Cmd 6861) the exemption from the price code of all charges for harbour operations within the harbour area was proposed. He believed that this additional exemption was in line with the latest representations made by the National Ports Council. The council were free to make any further observations to his department before the consultative period ended on 18 July.

National Gas Consumers' Council

T. G. D. Galbraith (Glasgow, Hillhead) asked in each of the last five years how much the National Gas Consumers' Council had cost; and what had been the costs of each of the regional councils.

Mr Fraser replied that until the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Act 1975 had come into force on 1 August 1975 the Gas Consumers' Councils had been financed by the British Gas Corporation, and the cost of running them could not be separately distinguished from the corporation's general administrative expenses. Expenditure on the councils during the period from 1 August 1975 to 31 March 1976 had been borne on the department's vote, and was at the estimated annual rate set out in column 1 below. Only the provisional figures in column 2 were, as yet, available for the financial year 1976/77.

Gas Consumers' Council	1 Estimated 1975-76 £	2 Provisional 1976-77 £
National	129 000	140 800
Scottish	33 900	48 900
Northern	49 600	67 000
North West	37 500	54 700
North East	24 000	34 700
West Midlands	30 200	43 700
East Midlands	30 300	35 900
Wales	28 200	40 600
Eastern	40 100	44 500
North Thames	27 200	35 400
South West	26 800	36 100
Southern	41 000	51 900
South East	54 000	68 100

Wednesday, 13 July

Cost escalation insurance for shipbuilders

Arthur Blenkinsop (South Shields) asked how many contracts had been offered assistance under section 7 and 8 of the Industry Act 1972 in respect of cost escalation insurance for shipbuilders.

Mr Varley said up to 30 June 1977 cost escalation insurance cover had been offered under Section 7 in respect of orders for 22 ships. No commitments had been made under Section 8. Experience with the Scheme had shown that applications in respect of certain export orders for yards outside the Assisted Areas could be handled more appropriately by ECGD, and they were now dealing with these cases.

Air Services Agreement

Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Heston) asked the Secretary of State for Trade when he expected to conclude the new Air Services Agreement with the United States of America.

Mr Dell said that negotiations to complete the remaining details had been resumed in Washington on 12 July and would be continued in Bermuda. He hoped to sign the new agreement in Bermuda on 23 July.

Arab boycott

Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone) asked how many British firms were believed to be on the Arab boycott blacklist.

Mr Meacher pointed out that the boycott was implemented by the Arab States individually. Neither they nor the Central Boycott Office published full and up to date lists of boycotted firms.

Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kemptown) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what action was being taken to persuade the Arab countries concerned to lift their boycott on some British firms.

Mr Meacher said that officials at the Department of Trade were available to discuss in confidence with individual firms any problems which they encountered and to assist them without breaching the principle of not recognising the Boycott Office.

Tenants and Council housing

John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when he expected to receive the report of the National Consumer Council on the involvement of tenants in the repair and improvement of council housing.

Mr Fraser said that he understood that the National Consumer Council hoped to complete the study early in the new year.

EEC contribution to Yorkshire and Humberside

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what aid had been provided by the EEC Regional Fund to Yorkshire and Humberside in 1977 to date; and what estimate he had made of the contribution to the EEC Regional Fund by Yorkshire and Humberside from the establishment of the fund to date by year.

Mr Williams said the European Commission had so far approved contributions from the European Regional Development Fund towards the cost of projects in the Yorkshire and Humberside region in 1977, amounting to £946,985. It was expected that further contributions would be approved during the year. It was not possible to give an estimate of the contribution made to the fund by particular regions since the fund was financed from the total EEC budget. It was expected that the United Kingdom would receive a net benefit of the order of £60 million from the first three years of the fund's operation.

Thursday, 14 July

EEC Commissions' scrutiny of regional assistance

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked what negotiations were to take place regarding the EEC Commission's scrutiny of regional assistance in the United Kingdom; and what was the attitude of the EEC to topping-up support for regional employment.

Mr Williams said the United Kingdom notified the commission of changes to regional aid schemes in accordance with its obligations under the Treaty of Rome, and discussions with the Commission took place as necessary. Experience had shown that the commission favoured investment incentives which led to increased employment in the regions, provided that the aids concerned did not distort or threaten to distort competition.

Carter Report on the Post Office

Norman Lamont (Kingston upon Thames) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how long the Carter Report on the Post Office had been at the printers, and when it would be published.

Mr Huckfield said the first copy had been sent to the printers on 16 May and the copy as revised by the Carter Committee had been sent on 13 June. The pages as revised by the Committee had been passed for press on 24 June. It was expected to be published later this month.

Concessionary rate for schoolchildren

John Loveridge (Havering, Upminster) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when considering the proposal by British Railways to withdraw the concessionary rate for season tickets for schoolchildren over 14 years of age, when such proposals were put to him last autumn, what had been the British Railways estimate of the number of children who would be affected; and on what grounds he had agreed to the proposals.

Mr Maclennan said the proposals would have been considered by the Price Commission to see that they had complied with the price code.

Waste paper imports

Hugh Rossi (Haringey, Hornsey) asked how many tonnes of waste paper had been imported for recycling by the paper industry last year: what had been the cost per tonne in foreign currency in US dollar terms; and at what level in terms of tonnes per week such imports were running during the current year.

Mr Cryer said that in 1976, 100 061 tonnes of waste paper had been imported, valued at 115.52 US dollars per tonne. During January-May inclusive in 1977, imports were running at 3115 tonnes per week. 54 930 tonnes valued at 145.01 US dollars per tonne had been also exported in 1976. Exports during January-May inclusive in 1977 were running at 880 tonnes per week.

Friday, 15 July

J. Donne Holdings

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked whether, J. Donne Holdings, or its subsidiaries, of 10, Golden Square, London, had filed accounts in accordance with the Companies Act since its formation.

Mr Clinton Davis said that J. Donne Holdings Ltd, which was incorporated on 24 September 1971, had been dissolved in November 1973, having failed to submit statutory documents including annual accounts. It had been restored by Order of the Court in March 1974, and since that date, had complied with its statutory obligations. The latest accounts, made up to 31 December 1975, had been received with the annual return for 1976 on 26 January 1977. Its subsidiary companies, Donne Security Systems Ltd, Donne Equipment Ltd and Donne Security Appointments (International) Ltd had also complied with the requirements of the Act with the exception of the latter company, which had been incorporated in July 1975 and had been reminded of its obligations.

Retail Price Index

Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale) asked, by how much prices had risen since 1 August 1976

Mr Maclennan said that in the ten months between 17 August 1976 and 14 June 1977 the Retail Price Index had risen by 15.8 per cent.

Departmental cash limits

Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, whether any changes were being made to the cash limits set for his department in command paper no. 6567.

Roy Hattersley said that the provisions of the Price Commission Bill now before parliament would call for additional expenditure and cash block DPCP3 is being increased from £13.4 million to £15.8 million. Following the introduction of the EEC butter subsidy announced by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 27 April, and the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of continued expenditure on the milk subsidy, cash block DPCP2 was increased from £43.4 million to £220.5 million. The expenditure would be met from within the existing programme totals and contingency reserve set out in Cmnd 6721; there was no addition to total planned expenditure. Provision for costs of the Price Commission and the butter subsidy had been made in the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection Vote and the Agricultural Support Vote respectively, presented to parliament on 8 July. A further supplementary estimate for the milk subsidy would be presented in due course. Any necessary additional expenditure on milk, in advance of the supplementary estimate, would be met by repayable advances from the contingencies fund.

European community news

More community progress during UK presidency

Guided by the view that the community could only develop by serving the interests of all its members in the day-to-day conduct of business, British spokesmen had continued to pursue national interests in a manner consistent with those of the community as a whole, during the UK's presidency of the council.

This is one of the points made in the introduction to a report 'Developments in the European Communities: Report on the Presidency'. The report, one of a series presented to parliament, covers the period 1 January to 30 June 1977 and was published on 19 July.

There had been some criticism of the UK presidency for lack of restraint in this respect, the report continues, but disagreements were inevitable on matters where the interests of member states did not coincide and the UK had sought to exercise her presidential responsibility both to find an equitable balance of advantage and to concentrate attention on areas of common interest and of benefit to all.

The work of the community was complex and varied and progress was conditioned by previous developments and external events. The scope for new initiatives and radical changes within a six-month period was therefore limited. The role of the presidency was largely to identify possibilities for progress in on-going business, to reconcile differences between the member states and to provide leadership, the report explains.

The conduct of the community's business and its relations with the rest of the world placed a substantial load on the government holding the presidency. The community had continued during the British presidency to suffer from the consequences of world-wide economic recession which had limited scope for pursuing the goals of growth and convergence in the economic performance of member states. However a large measure of unity had been maintained during the British presidency in facing these difficulties, in developing relations with other countries and economic groupings and in carrying forward the internal policies of the community, despite the present harsh economic circumstances which had affected all member states.

In accordance with custom the UK presidency had opened with a statement of British aims for the community in a keynote speech delivered to the European assembly by Anthony Crosland as president of the council of foreign ministers (see *Trade and Industry* 14 January, page 104). He had laid stress on the need to strengthen the organisation of the community, to consolidate its achievements, to improve the operation of existing policies, to promote convergence between the economies of the member states and to develop the community's influence in the world. Mr Crosland's realistic approach to the presidency, and the themes which he distinguished had been those which the UK had continued to emphasise.

During the UK presidency the Prime Minister had presided at meetings of heads of governments in the European council where he had been accompanied by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. British ministers had chaired all meetings of the council of ministers where the UK interests had accordingly been represented by a colleague. (A record of the more important developments in the councils and other institutions of the community is given in the annexes of the report.)

The two European councils, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, were generally regarded as useful and productive, the report finds. Problems which had arisen in the organisation of some earlier councils were overcome.

In Rome on 25-26 March the council had given priority to policies for tackling world economic problems, for promoting growth and economic convergence among member states, and for reducing inflation and unemployment. In London on 29-30 June they had been able to record significant progress with these policies and to approve a programme of further action notably by the European Investment Bank. The two councils had also marked progress in the community's relations with the rest of the world, including Japan, the Middle East, Africa and the developing countries.

In the field of foreign affairs the presidency had played a leading role in the preparation and conduct of the community's international relations. The UK had contributed substantially to the progress made in Unctad and the CIEC, to the success of the joint ministerial council of the Lomé convention, and to the work of the development council. Further impetus had been given to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Multilateral Trade Negotiations (Gatt MTNs).

Serious discussion of the questions raised by the prospect of further enlargement of the community was undertaken. Good progress had been made in the negotiations for Greek accession and work had begun on the Portuguese application for membership. The community's endeavours to develop its economic and trading relationships with the Mediterranean countries had been brought within sight of a successful conclusion. Good relations had been maintained with the European Free Trade Area countries and further progress had been made in improving relationships with eastern Europe and far eastern and Latin American countries.

Nearer home, the member states had taken concerted action to extend their fishery limits to 200 miles; and the community had entered into negotiations with a number of countries, including the Soviet Union, Poland and the GDR, on fisheries arrangements.

These developments reflected the increasing influence of the community in the world, its role in representing the interests of its members and its readiness to work for a more equitable and stable world economic order. The economic problems for the community of enlargement were not to be underestimated, but the community had to support democracy and social justice among its neighbours.

Political co-operation between the member states in the co-ordination of their foreign relations was a special responsibility of the presidency and had been developed and strengthened during the UK term of office. London had been the centre for an intensive programme of meetings and of the communications network linking directly the foreign ministers of the Nine. Apart from their formal meetings, the foreign ministers of the Nine were engaged in a continuous consultation at all levels over a wide range of foreign policy matters. In particular, a comprehensive and consolidated position was agreed for the CSCE review meetings at Belgrade. The Nine had displayed an active concern for African questions, with valuable support for the UK over Rhodesia. They had maintained close diplomatic contacts with the parties involved in the Cyprus dispute and restated their position on the Middle East. The groundwork had been laid for increased co-ordination among the Nine at

Prime Minister James Callaghan (second left) with EEC leaders in the garden of 10 Downing Street after the European Council at the end of the UK presidency.

the United Nations.

In the economic and financial field the UK presidency had been responsible for urging forward important programmes of work on growth, inflation and employment. First, a common community position calling for additional international financing had been worked out for presentation to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Secondly, the community had agreed on the need to stimulate world economic activity on lines which had been endorsed at the Downing Street summit meeting. Thirdly, attention had been given to measures to promote employment, and constructive discussions on this problem had taken place in the tripartite conference held at the end of the UK presidency.

The community had also undertaken the reappraisal of some of its major financial measures. Agreement in principle had been reached on improvements in the operation of the social fund. Following an invitation from the European Council, the European Investment Bank intended to increase its lendings to promote investment. Work had started on a review of the regional development fund. These developments were designed to strengthen the economies of the member states and to promote their convergence.

The UK had also carried forward, during its presidency, the community's work on financing its budget wholly from its own resources; agreement had finally been reached on a common basis for charging value added tax. Progress had also been recorded in the development of community energy policy and in the transport field towards a common community system of 'whole vehicle' type approval which promised, when completed, to bring significant benefits to trade within the community.

There were problems yet to be resolved within the community on many issues. Work had continued on the revision of the common fisheries policy which was a pressing but difficult matter involving serious economic, social and political problems. Similarly there were continuing problems in the operation of the CAP. The divergencies of interest which existed in the community of the Nine would take time to resolve. The fixing of community support prices during the year had been contentious but it had marked progress towards a better balance of interest between producers and consumers which was held by many to be in the long term interests of the community.

When Britain joined the community she had subscribed to the aims of the treaty of Rome and the obligations of membership. The UK had contributed to the community's aim of ensuring the economic and social progress of its members by common action to eliminate the barriers which divided Europe. The UK had pursued the objective of improving the living and working conditions of her people by action to promote economic growth and convergence among national economies and by removing restrictions on trade and had sought to strengthen peace and liberty. The close of the UK presidency marked the end of her transition to full membership of the community and the virtual completion of a customs union covering what was in effect the largest single market in the world.

Commission announces contracts in data processing

The European commission announced on 12 July that it has awarded contracts to a value of 460 000 units of account (ua) (£184,000) and a decision on the fourth project of 200 000 ua (£80,000) is awaited. The contracts result from an open tender for data processing application projects adopted by the council under the community data processing policy. A total of 30 bids in consortia were submitted by 180 main and subcontractors.

Experts from the member states, who represented the foremost abilities in their fields, carried out a systematic and detailed evaluation of the tenders and advised the commission in the selection process.

Technical study on legal information retrieval systems

This contract (for 220 000 ua – £88,000) awarded to a group headed by SFS (Germany) with Sema Informatique (France), Scientific Control System (UK) and Ingenierie Informatique (France) is for 18 months. The project examines the needs of present and future users in this field and the present systems in use, with a view to generating the specifications for a future European system.

CAD eletronics study

The 14-month (210 000 ua – £84,000) contract awarded to Saget (Luxembourg) in association with Plessey (UK), Nixdorf (Germany), Sema (France) is for a feasibility study into computer aids in logic circuit design. The success of this project could have dramatic implications for the electronics industry in terms of reductions in design time, costs and errors.

Data bank for organ and blood matching

Mescon International (Holland) has been awarded a contract in association with Regnecentralen (Denmark) for this (30 000 ua – £12,000) study into the possible linking-up of computer centres, through data communications, to increase access to a larger donor pool for the matching of kidneys for transplants and for blood therapies.

CAD in relation to construction management

Discussions are still under way with tenderers for this 12-month project (200 000 ua – £80,000). The study is an examination of the ways in which computers can be used in the construction industry to improve design and management in the construction of buildings. A decision on the final choice of a contractor is expected to be made by the end of July.

EIB loan for chemicals plant

The European Investment Bank has granted a loan equivalent to £6.9 million (10.5 million units of account) to the British Steel Corporation (BSC) to help to finance the construction of a benzole refinery at Port Clarence on Teesside, by its subsidiary British Steel Corporation (Chemicals) Ltd. The loan is for 12 years at an interest rate of 8.5 per cent.

The new plant has become necessary to process increased quantities of benzole which will arise from higher coke production during the 1980s to fuel BSC's planned growth in steel output. It will have a capacity of 125 000 tonnes of crude benzole per year and will work according to the modern, non-polluting Litol process.

This is the twelfth loan granted by the EIB for different investments forming part of BSC's development strategy, bringing the total amount advanced to almost £130 million. All the projects have been situated in less developed regions or areas where there are industrial conversion problems.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Conference on EEC customs union

The British Shippers' Council and the CBI are to co-sponsor a one-day conference: 'EEC Customs Union – What's the form?' in London on 28 September.

Subjects for discussion include customs union; principles underlying procedures; free circulation and documentation; rules of origin; movements of goods between the community and its associates; changes in valuation for customs purposes; and likely developments in customs procedures and documentation.

Chairman for the conference will be Arthur Day, director general of the Institute of Export and speakers, so far, include Henry Chumas of the commission in Brussels, John Raven of Sitpro, Peter Clark of the General Division of the Department of Trade, John Whitehorn of the CBI, Patsy Bruce of ICI Ltd and a speaker from Customs and Excise.

Further information from Miss Killick, CBI 01-930 6711.

Temporary suspension of the CCT

Existing suspensions

The Department of Trade gives notice of a review in the autumn by the EEC commission of existing suspensions of the CCT (common customs tariff) which are due to expire on 31 December 1977. The goods in question are listed in council regulations (EEC) 1379/77 (agricultural products) and 1345/77 (industrial products). Details are also given below. Unless any objections are raised it is intended that these suspensions should generally be maintained for a further period ending on 30 June 1978.

CCT heading	Description	CCT suspended rate of duty %
ex 03.01 B II a) and B II b) 7	Fillets of herring, fresh, chilled or frozen, intended for the processing industry	7
ex 16.04 C II	'Herring-flaps', prepared or preserved in vinegar, in barrels or other packings of a net capacity of 10 kg or more, intended for the processing industry	7
ex 16.04 C II	Spiced and salted herrings, packed in barrels, intended for the processing industry	7
ex 28.18 C	Magnesium oxide, dead-burned but not fused, of a purity not less than 95%, which may not contain: (a) more than 0.05% by weight of boron compounds evaluated as B_2O_3 (b) more than 3.5% by weight of calcium compounds evaluated as CaO (c) more than 1.1% by weight of silicon compounds evaluated as SiO_2 (d) a total of more than 0.7% by weight of aluminium compounds and iron compounds evaluated as Al_2O_3 and Fe_2O_3	—
ex 29.02 B	1,6,7,8,9,14,15,16,17,17,18,18-Dodecachloropentacyclo 12.2.1.1^{6,9}.0^{2,13}.0^{5,10} octadeca-7,15-diene	—
ex 29.15 A IV a)	Sebacic acid	—
ex 29.15 C III	Benzyl 3-hydroxy-2,2,4-trimethylpentylphthalate	—
ex 29.16 B VI	3,5-Di-iodosalicyclic acid	—
ex 29.23 B II	3-Chloro-4-(4-chlorophenoxy)-aniline	—
ex 29.31 B	Cyclohexanethiol	—
ex 29.35 Q	Cambendazole (INN)	—
ex 29.35 Q	Dexchlorpheniramine (INN)-hydrogen maleate	—
ex 29.35	Ronidazole (INN)	—
ex 29.38 B II	Calcium pantothenate (INN)	3
ex 30.01 B	Mixture of oestrogens of equine origin	—
ex 32.08 D	Ground glass fibres with a length varying between 0.1 and 3 mm and a diameter of not less than two and not more than four micrometres	—
ex 38.19 G	Catalysts consisting of copper chloride supported on aluminium oxide for the preparation of dichloroethane from ethylene, hydrochloric acid and oxygen	—
ex 38.19 U	Mixture of x-butyl-4,4′-isopropylidenediphenol and x,x′-dibutyl-4-4′-isopropylidenediphenol	—
ex 38.19 U	Mixture of 4-octyldiphenylamine and 4,4′-dioctyldiphenylamine intended for the production of polybutadiene-acrylonitrile	—
ex 39.02 C VIII b)	Polyvinylchloride sheeting less than 1 mm thick of a width not less than 23 and not more than 28 cm, containing not less than 30% and not more than 40% by weight of a plasticiser, in rolls	10
ex 39.06 B	*O*-(2-Hydroxyethyl)amylopectin hydrolysate	—
ex 48.01 E	Japanese tissue (special long fibre paper) for the manufacture of artificial sausage casings or for wrapping man-made textile fibres (continuous) in the course of industrial processing	—
ex 51.02 A II	Polyimide strip, whether or not in rolls	—
ex 81.04 G I	Electrolytic manganese of a purity of at least 99.7% intended for the chemical industry	—
ex 81.04 K I	Titanium sponge	—
ex 84.63	Forged and roughly shaped generator and turbine shafts of a weight exceeding 150 tonnes	—
ex 85.21 D II	Digital displays consisting of a printed circuit board of a size not exceeding 35 mm by 90 mm with a single line of digits, not less than three in number comprising light-emitting diodes manufactured from gallium-based semi-conductor compounds mounted thereon. Each digit is comprised of seven segments plus a decimal point and the line of digits has a protective cover of translucent plastic	—
ex 88.05 B	Visual display system generating images by computer intended for equipping flight simulators for civil aircraft	—

Proposed new suspensions

The Department of Trade also gives notice of applications which have been made to the EEC commission by member states of the community for new suspensions of the CCT. The goods in question are listed below. If these proposed suspensions receive the unanimous agreement of the nine member states it is intended that they should come into operation on 1 January 1978.

a United Kingdom requests

The United Kingdom has put forward the following requests, which are for total suspensions of the CCT in each instance. If they are granted, UK importers will be able from 1 January 1978 to import the goods duty free from any source.

CCT heading	Description
ex 16.04 B I	Salmon, canned, for further processing into pastes, spreads or similar products
ex 29.11 E I	4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (vanillin)
ex 29.35 Q	L-Tryptophan
ex 39.02 C XIVa)	Poly(2-phenylpropylene) in one of the forms mentioned in Note 3 (b) to Chapter 39
ex 51.02 A II	Strip of polytetrafluoroethylene
ex 78.01 A II	Lead alloy waste and scrap in ingot form for smelting

b Other member states requests

The EEC commission have notified the department of the following requests for new suspensions. Apart from 2-Nitropropane ex 29.03 B II, on which a temporary reduction of the CCT is 8 per cent is requested, total suspension of the CCT is sought in each instance.

CCT heading	Description
ex 28.04 C III	Tellurium ingots
ex 28.42 A VI	Lithium carbonate
ex 28.46 A I b	*di*Sodium tetraborate, anhydrous
ex 28.48 B II	*di*Aluminium hexamagnesium carbonate decahydroxide tetrahydrate
ex 29.02 A III	Dibromomethane
ex 29.02 B	1,2,3,4,5-Pentabromo-6-chlorocyclohexane
ex 29.02 B	Dodecachloropentacyclo-octadecadiene
ex 29.03 B II	2-Nitropropane
ex 29.08 D	*tert*-Butyl hydroperoxide (in 70% aqueous solution)
ex 29.14 A XI	Butyric anhydride
ex 29.15 C III	5-Nitroisophthalic acid
ex 29.22 D I	3,5-Dichloroaniline
ex 29.23 D V	3,5-Diaminobenzoic acid
ex 29.25 B III b	2′-Benzoyl-4′-chloro-*N*-(2-hydroxypropyl)glycinanilide
ex 29.30	Methyl isocyanate
ex 29.30	*O,O*-Bis(4-*tert*-butylphenyl) *N*-cyclohexylphosphoramidothioate
ex 29.31 B	2-Methyl-2-(methylthio)propionaldehyde oxime
ex 29.35 Q	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10,10,11,11-Dodecachloro-1,4,4a,5a,6,9,9a,9b-octahydro-1,4:6,9-dimethanodibenzofuran
ex 29.35 Q	Butorphanol (INN) tartrate
ex 29.35 Q	Tris(3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-1,3,5-triazinetrione
ex 29.35 Q	Tris(4-*tert*-butyl-3-hydroxy-2,6-dimethylbenzyl)-1,3,5-triazinetrione
ex 29.35 Q	Carpipramine (INN) dihydrochloride
ex 29.35 Q	Clotiazepam (INN)
ex 29.35 Q	1,3,5-Triacryloylperhydro-1,3,5-triazine
ex 29.35 Q	2,3-Dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-hydroxybenzofuran
ex 29.35 Q	4-Amino-6-*tert*-butyl-2,4-dihydro-3-thioxo-1,2,4-triazin-5-one
ex 29.35 Q	4-Amino-6-*tert*-butyl-4,5-dihydro-3-methylthio-1,2,4-triazin-5-one
ex 29.39 B	Insulin, crystalline
ex 29.42 C VII	Vincamine (INN)
ex 29.45	Potassium *tert*-butoxide
ex 30.01 B	Human serum
ex 30.02 A	Bulk inactivated influenza vaccine
ex 30.03 A II b	Butorphanol (INN) tartrate in phials
ex 34.02	(C_{13}-C_{14} Alkyl)benzylbis(2-hydroxypropyl)ammonium chloride
ex 34.02	A mixture of the sodium salts of dodecylphenoxybenzenesulphonic acid and dodecylphenoxybenzene-3,6-disulphonic acid
ex 34.02	Poly[1-(α-trimethylammonio-*p*-tolyl)ethylene chloride]
ex 38.19 G	Catalyst, in the form of granules with diameters between 3 mm and 10 mm, consisting of silver on an aluminium oxide support, and which contains not less than 16% and not more than 19% of silver by weight.
ex 39.02 C XIV a	Chlorinated polyethylene having a density not less than 1.10 and not more than 1.35 g cm^{-3}
ex 39.02 C XIV a	A copolymer of ethylene and tetrafluoroethylene in one of the forms mentioned in Note 3 to Chapter 39
ex 39.03 B V a 2	Cationic cellulose derivatives soluble in water
ex 85.21 D II	Electronic microcircuits

The department will wish to take account of United Kingdom interests in making its views known to the EEC before decisions are taken whether to continue existing suspensions or grant the proposed new suspensions. UK producers of the goods in question or of like or competing products are entitled to object where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the community and that their interests would be adversely affected by the loss or reduction of community preference on their exports to other member states.

Producers wishing to object to continuation of suspension on the goods listed in the first table above, or to the granting of new suspensions of the CCT on the goods listed in the other tables should provide as much as possible of the following information:

estimated community (nine countries including the UK) demand in 1977 and 1978;

estimated UK demand in 1977 and 1978;

UK production expected to be available in 1977 and 1978 for:

the UK market in 1977 and 1978;

the rest of the community in 1977 and 1978;

exports to other countries in the same years.

Representations should be made in writing and sent to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, so as to arrive not later than 19 August 1977. Inquiries: 01-215 3576.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 1501/77 determining the intervention centres for cereals (*Official Journal* L168, 6 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1505/77 amending for the 12th time regulation (EEC) 2042/75 on special detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences for cereals and rice (*Official Journal* L168, 6 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1515/77 fixing, for the 1977/78 marketing year, the threshold prices for certain classes of flour, groats and meal (*Official Journal* L169, 7 July 1977).

Hops. Regulation (EEC) 1516/77 amending regulation (EEC) 776/73 on registration of contracts and communication of data with respect to hops (*Official Journal* L169, 7 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1517/77 fixing the list of the various groups of hop varieties cultivated in the community (*Official Journal* L169, 7 July 1977).

Sugar. The *Official Journal* L162, 1 July 1977 contains the texts of:

Regulation (EEC) 1465/77 amending regulation (EEC) 442/70 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of offsetting storage costs for sugar.

Regulation (EEC) 1466/77 fixing, for the 1977/78 marketing year, the amounts of the levy in connection with the offsetting of storage costs for sugar.

Regulation (EEC) 1467/77 amending regulation (EEC) 394/70 on detailed rules for granting export refunds on sugar.

Processed agricultural products. The *Official Journal* L162, 1 July 1977 contains the texts of:

Regulation (EEC) 1468/77 laying down rules for applying the production levy on isoglucose in respect of the period 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978

Regulation (EEC) 1469/77 laying down rules for applying the levy and the refund in respect of isoglucose and amending regulation (EEC) 192/75

Regulation (EEC) 1470/77 laying down special rules for the application of the system of import and export licences for isoglucose and amending regulation (EEC) 193/75

Regulation (EEC) 1471/77 on information from the member states concerning isoglucose.

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1475/77 amending for the third time regulation (EEC) 2133/74 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts (*Official Journal* L164, 2 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1482/77 amending for the third time regulation (EEC) 3148/76 on preventive distillation for the wine-growing year 1976/77 (*Official Journal* L164, 2 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1518/77 enabling short-term private storage contracts to be concluded for table wines closely related economically to the RI type of table wine (*Official Journal* L169, 7 July 1977).

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1483/77 laying down special measures for olive oil following amendments to the common customs tariff nomenclature (*Official Journal* L164, 2 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1530/77 on the putting up for sale of olive oil by the Italian intervention agency (*Official Journal* L170, 8 July 1977).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1493/77 amending regulation (EEC) 497/70 on rules for the application of export refunds on fruit and vegetables (*Official Journal* L167, 5 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1494/77 derogating in respect of the opening weeks of the 1977/78 marketing year, from the quality standards applicable to certain varieties of dessert apples and pears (*Official Journal* L167, 5 July 1977).

Silk and silkworms. Regulation (EEC) 1496/77 on communications between member states and the commission in the silkworm sector (*Official Journal* L167, 5 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1497/77 on detailed rules for supplementary aid to certain silkworm rearers (*Official Journal* L167, 5 July 1977).

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L170, 8 July 1977 contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decisions 77/426/EEC and 77/429/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to essential oil of oranges, not terpeneless, falling within sub-heading 33.01 ex A of the common customs tariff, originating in Brazil and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/427/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to certain men's, boys', women's, girls' and infants' outer garments falling within heading ex 61.01 and ex 61.02 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/428/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian) or of other kinds of pottery, except common pottery and stoneware, falling within heading 69.11 or subheading 69.12 C or D of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/430/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres, unbleached or bleached, falling within heading ex 55.09 or subheading 56.07 ex A of the common customs tariff, originating in Thailand and in free circulation in the other member states.

Customs regulation

Rules of origin. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L164, 2 July 1977 contains the text of regulation (EEC) 1480/77 on the determination of the origin of certain knitted and crocheted articles, certain articles of apparel, and footwear, falling within chapter 60 and heading nos. ex 42.03, 61.01, 61.02, 61.03, 61.04, ext 61.09, 64.01, 64.02, 64.03 and 64.04 of the common customs tariff.

Further information: Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 5750.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons during the week ended 13 July (Commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses):

The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

R/1633/77 (COM(77)284)
Proposal for a multiannual R and D programme in the field of primary raw materials (indirect action 1978-81).

R/1635/77 (COM(77)287)
Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 64/432/EEC on, as regards brucellosis, the buffered brucella antigen test, 45/20 vaccine and the inconclusive range to the serum agglutination test.

R/1643/77/ (COM(77)296)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) no. 823/68 as regards the conditions for the entry of certain cheeses under certain tariff headings.

S/1098/77 (COM(77)298)
(COM(77)299)
(COM(77)302)
(COM(77)303)
Four proposals for Council Regulations (EEC) laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of: Poland, the GDR or the USSR; Spain, Finland or Portugal; Sweden; certain non-member countries in the 200 nautical mile zone off the coast of the French department of Guyana.

R/1659/77 (COM(77)283)
The common policy in the field of science and technology.

R/1629/77 (COM(77)282)
First programme of research projects in the field of medical and public health research.

R/1660/77 (COM(77)219)
A proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulations (EEC) nos. 1408/71 and 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community; a proposal for a Council Regulation amending the Annexes to Regulations (EEC) nos. 1408/71 and 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

R/1607/77 (COM(77)306)
Communication from the Commission to the Council concerning a proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) relating to certain interim measures for the conservation and management of certain herring stocks.

Consultative documents

R/1613/77 (COM(77)260)
Second annual report on the European Regional Development Fund (1976).

R/1225/77 (COM(77)170)
Fifth report by the Commission to the Council on the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) no. 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport.

R/1483/77 (COM(77)269)
Proposal for a transfer of appropriations between Chapters of the budgetary estimates of the ECSC Auditor for the 1977 financial year.

R/1636/77 (COM(77)290)
Communication from the Commission to the Council concerning the final estimates for the 1975-76 wine-growing year.

Latest UK allocations from regional fund

Contributions of £23.4 million towards the cost of projects in the UK are to be made from the EEC regional development fund, the European commission announced on 15 July.

This is the third allocation from the fund in 1977. The £23.4 million relates to 12 industrial projects and 90 infrastructure projects which are detailed below.

£000

Region	Industrial projects	Infrastructure projects	Total
Northern region	3 777	6 845	10 622
North west	1 069	738	1 807
Yorkshire and Humberside	24	748	772
East Midlands	—	86	86
South west	—	234	234
Total England	4 870	8 651	13 521
Northern Ireland	1 413	2 782	4 195
Scotland	1 249	2 812	4 061
Wales	—	1 643	1 643
Total UK	7 532	15 888	23 420

This brings the total fund contribution to UK projects approved in 1977 to £41.7 million, and since the inception of the fund in 1975, to £136.7 million.

The new allocation by the commission includes contributions totalling £4.8 million towards the cost of national aids to 10 industrial and service industry projects in England set out in the attached list. This money will not be passed to the individual businesses concerned but will be retained by the government and used to go ahead with a greater total of regional investment than would otherwise have been possible.

A total of £136.7 million has been allocated to the UK since the inception of the fund in 1975. This is allocated as follows:

England	Fund contributions £000
Northern	41 858
North west	12 740
Yorkshire and Humberside	4 809
East Midlands	833
West Midlands	14
South west	1 978
Total England	62 232
Northern Ireland	22 042
Scotland	33 552
Wales	18 914
Total UK	136 740

Industrial projects: Northern region

Projects: 3 — Fund contribution: £3 777 427

Location/company	Activity
Allonby, Cumbria: Sandpiper Hotel	Tourism
Beal, Northumberland: Haggerston Castle	Tourism
Lackenby, Langbaurgh: British Steel Corporation	Steel production
Neasham, Darlington: Newbus Grange Hotel	Tourism
Sunderland, Tyne and Wear: Coles Cranes Ltd	Crane production
Sunderland, Tyne and Wear: Corning Ltd	Heat resistant glass

Industrial projects: North-west region

Projects: 3 — Fund contribution £1 068 619

Birkenhead, Merseyside: Britannia Refining Co Ltd	Blending of oils and fats
Skelmersdale, Lancashire: Keyes Huntsman Ltd	Plastic container production
St Helens, Lancashire: The Ravenhead Co Ltd	Glass tableware

Industrial projects: Yorkshire and Humberside region

Project: 1 — Fund contribution £24 000

Scarborough, North Yorkshire: Granville Hotel	Tourism

Northern England

Infrastructure projects

Eden/South Lakeland, Cumbria – North West Water Authority (Shap aqueduct water supply scheme) £346 000

Eston, Cleveland – Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority (construction of two berths at Tees Dock) £168 506

Tynedale, Northumberland – Northumbrian Water Authority (construction of Kielder water reservoir and Tyne-Tees aqueduct) £5 363 249

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Allerdale – Workington Dock	Provision of roads, drainage, water, electricity and telephone services. Resurfacing of quayside for industrial site
Aycliffe industrial estate	Construction of an access road
Blyth Harbour – Northumberland	Provision of two 6-ton cranes, transfer of existing 5-ton cranes, improvement to quay and electricity supply
Copeland – Millom, Dalton, Askam	Installation of a new substation
Copeland, Whitehaven Harbour	Provision of two cranes
Harker, Carlisle	Provision of a 120 MVA transformer, switching equipment and cables
Hutton, South Lakeland	Diversion of 400 kV line for a future supergrid supply point
Norton, Stockton-on-Tees	Provision of two 240 MVA transformers, switching equipment and cables
Salt Holme, Stockton-on-Tees	Installation of substation
Seal Sands, Stockton-on-Tees	Provide a telephone exchange building and exchange equipment and lineplant
Seal Sands, Stockton-on-Tees	Provision of 12 in gas pipeline to Seal Sands Development
Spennymoor, Sedgefield	Provision of 240 MVA transformers, switching equipment and cables
Sunderland – Leechmere West industrial estate	Levelling of land and the provision of roads and drainage facilities

Total aid in respect of 13 infrastructure projects (global applications) £966 946

Total (all infrastructure projects) £6 844 701

North-west England

Infrastructure projects

Hyndburn, Lancashire – North West Water Authority (Phase 2 construction of the Martholme Sewage Treatment Works, comprising inlet works, primary settlement and storm tanks, aeration plant and associated pumping stations) £279 000

Wigan – North West Water Authority (extensions to Hoscar sewage treatment works) £39 060

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Burnley – Heasandford industrial estate	Provision of access road and services
Ellesmere Port	Surfacing of container yard extension, extension of crane rail, provision of additional crane power supply, fencing
Fiddlers Ferry, Halton, Chester	Provision of two 240 MVA transformers, switching equipment and cables
Fleetwood – Copse Road	Construction of link road from Copse Road to new dock entrance and industrial complex in the dock area
Haresfinch, St Helens	Construction of sewer for industrial development
Manchester, Denton West	Rebuilding a primary substation
Manchester, Stuart Street	Replacement of obsolete switchgear
St Helens	Increase supplies of electricity

Total aid in respect of eight infrastructure projects (global applications) £420 480

Total (all infrastructure projects) £738 540

Yorkshire and Humberside

Infrastructure projects

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Barnsley, Aldham industrial estate	Provision of access roads
Barnsley, Heelis Street/ Fleet Street industrial estate	Provision of roads and sewers
Barnsley, Grange Lane industrial site	Provision of roads and sewers
Barnsley, Carlton industrial estate	Provision of roads and sewers
Barnsley, West Melton	Replacement of existing overhead line with larger capacity line
Boothferry, Humberside – Hamburg Yard, Goole Docks	Erection of three 6 ton cranes, with crane rails, drainage and electricity supply. Levelling of quay area. Construction of shed
Boothferry, Humberside, Low End, Goole Docks	Provision of access road to derrick crane berth at Ship Dock. Surfacing of marshalling area
Bradford, Common Road industrial site	Site reclamation, provision of estate roads
Bradford, Walker Drive, Thornton Road	Site levelling, provision of roads and sewers for industrial estate
Bradford, Canal Road, power station site	Site clearance, provision of roads and sewers for industrial estate
Doncaster – Carcroft industrial estate	Provision of roads, sewers and power supplies
Kingston-upon-Hull – Sutton Fields industrial estate	Provision of roads and sewers for industrial estate
Kingston-upon-Hull	Provision of a moveable barrier gate to be operated in the case of high surge tides to protect industrial development
Rotherham, Eastwood trading estate	Extension of estate. Site stabilisation and roads
Wakefield, Hoyle Mill Lane, Kinsley	Widening of highway to improve access industrial estate
Wakefield, Minsthorpe Lane, South Kirkby	Access road improvement to industrial estate

Total aid in respect of 16 infrastructure projects (global application) £748 135

East Midlands

Total aid (all projects) £85 500

Infrastructure projects

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Chesterfield – Whittington Hill	Provision of combined trunk sewer
Chesterfield – Sheepbridge industrial estate	Completion of site works, roads, water mains, substation, off-site drainage
Louth – Fairfield Estate	Sewage pumping station and main, completion of roads and sewers on industrial site

Total aid in respect of three infrastructure projects (global application) £85 500

South-west England

Total aid (all projects) £234 495

Infrastructure projects

Caradon, Cornwall – South West Water Authority (reservoir and ancillary works) £52 245

Aid is given under a global application to the following project:

Cornwall	Provision of telephone exchanges and ancillary equipment for local and trunk telephone exchanges at Bodmin, Penzance, Plymouth, St Austell and Truro

Total aid in respect of one infrastructure project (global application) £182 250

Northern Ireland

Total aid (all projects) £4 195 027.81

Industrial projects

Location	Amount
Campsie, Londonderry – Courtaulds Ltd: the investment is an integrated operation to manufacture sheets, pillowcases, duvet covers and work-wear. The operation will comprise spinning, weaving, printing/dyeing and making up. The raw materials will be polyester and viscose fibre	£1 412 812.81

Infrastructure projects

Project	Amount
Kilroot – Northern Ireland Electricity Service: electricity supply transmission works from the new Kilroot generation station to the main 275 000 volt grid connection points at Kells, Castlereagh and Tandragee substations	£2 668 215

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Belleek	Safe boating harbour and facilities
Castle Archdale, Enniskillen	Motor cruiser base and facilities

Total aid in respect of two infrastructure projects (global application £114 000
Total (infrastructure projects) £2 782 215

Scotland

Total aid (all projects) £4 061 064

Industrial projects

Irvine, Ayrshire – Beecham Pharmaceuticals £1 248 893
The project involves the expansion of the firm's capacity at Irvine by the use of additional buildings, plant and machinery for processes of fermentation, antibiotic, solvent recovery in the preparation of penicillin amoxycillin precursor for export

Infrastructure projects

Glasgow – Strathclyde Regional Council £1 135 000
Modernisation and enlargement of Shieldhall sewage treatment works

Glendevon, Perthshire/Clackmannanshire – Fife Regional Council £271 300
Reservoir and water treatment works

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Alexandria, Dumbarton, Murroch Bridge	Replacement of existing bridge
Annan	Extension of sewage treatment works
Annan – Jockstown service reservoir	Laying of water main from Jockstown service reservoir to Annan
Annan – Eastriggs and Dornock	Construction of sewage treatment works, pump stations and rising main
Ayr – Doonview Terrace industrial estate	Provision of roads, water, drainage and other services
Ayr – Heathfield Road industrial estate	Improvement of access road
Bathgate, West Lothian, Whitehill industrial estate	Construction of spur road to allow further development at industrial estate
Blairgowrie, West Tayside – Lintrathen West Trunk Main	Provision of water supply
Bo'ness, Falkirk – Bo'mains industrial estate	Provision of road and other services
Bonnybridge, Falkirk – Winchester Avenue, Denny industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, water services
Broxburn, West Lothian – East Mains industrial estate	Construction of spur road to open up new sites at industrial estate
Caithness – Wick industrial estate	Provision of drainage
Cambuslang	Construction of pipe bridge to provide drainage outfall
Cambuslang industrial estate	Provision of water supply
Cowdenbeath, Fife – Glenfield New industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, water and other services
Clydebank – Riverside industrial estate	Construction of access road
Cumnock/Auchinleck – Barony Road industrial estate	Provision of roads, water, drainage and other services
Cumnock – Cairn Road industrial estate	Provision of roads, water, drainage and other services
Dundee – Riverside Airstrip	Surfacing of existing grass runway, taxiway and apron at airstrip
Dunfermline – Hillend industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, water and other services
Eyemouth, Berwickshire	Construction of 33 kV sub-station
Falkirk – Bankside industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, water and other services
Fife – Whitehill booster station	Provision of booster pumps on trunk water main
Gailes – Irvine	Provision of electricity supply to drainage pumping station and inlet works
Galashiels – Station Yard industrial estate	Provision of access road, water, drainage and other services. Augmentation to Galashiels water supply and improvement to Galashiels sewage treatment works
Glasgow, Lesmahagow – Milton Farm industrial estate	Provision of roads, water and other services – Phase 1
Granton, Leith – West Shore Road new industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage and other services
Haddington, Musselburgh, East Lothian – Macmerry industrial estate	Construction of spur roads to allow further development at industrial estate
Inverness – Longman industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, lighting and electricity to expansion area of estate
Inverness – Dalcross industrial estate	Provision of water tank at Balnabual to supply water to industrial estate
Irvine New Town – industrial estate	Provision of railway underbridge to improve access to industrial estate and harbour area
Livingston – Williamston industrial estate	Provision of water supply and drainage
Livingston, West Lothian – Brucefield and Williamston industrial estate	Provision of water supply (Bal Green) for industrial estates
Livingston – Deans industrial estate	Provision of water supply
Lochgelly, Fife, Cartmore industrial estate	Provision of roads, drainage, water and other services
Peterhead, Banff and Buchan	Phase 3 of Peterhead main drainage scheme
Renfrew – Inchinnan industrial estate	Construction of pumping station and rising main
Shieldhall, Glasgow	Provision of electricity supply to new sewage treatment works
Tobermory, Island of Mull	Construction of a 1.3 km of single track bituminous surfaced roadway as link between the A849 and the Fishnish ferry terminal

Total aid in respect of 39 infrastructure projects £1 405 871
Total (infrastructure projects) £2 812 171

Wales

Total aid (all projects) £1 643 463.55

Infrastructure projects

Aid is given under a global application to the following projects:

Location	Project
Barry, South Glamorgan	Conveyor system and stacking area for coal and coke at Barry docks
Blackwood	Provision of roadway, footpaths and services on Penmaen industrial estate
Blaenavon, Gwent	Improvement of William Street and Prince Street
Bridgend	Improvement to Cowbridge road, A.473
Bridgend	Improvement of A.473 from Factory Lane to Coychurch roundabout
Cwmbran, Gwent	Link to Greenforge Way at Clomendy road roundabout
Deeside	New electricity supply
Neath, West Glamorgan	Redevelopment of Briton Ferry dock area, construction of access road and bridge
Newtown, Powys	New access road to Tannery industrial site
Pontardave, West Glamorgan	Making up of highway and foot paths with kerbs and roundabouts
Pontypool, Gwent	New road to by-pass town centre
Pontlottyn – Glamorgan	Pontlottyn link road
Rhondda, Mid Glamorgan	Llwynpia road – improvement of A.4119
Rhymney Valley – Mid Glamorgan	Rhymney flood relief scheme – stage 1
Sandycroft, Alyn and Deeside	Pumping station and rising main
Swansea	Improvement to Beaufort road
Tonyfefail, Mid Glamorgan	Improvement of A.4119 near Coedely Colliery
Tredegar, Gwent	Widening and realignment of the A.4048 between Argoed and Markham
Tredegar, Gwent	Widening and realignment of A.4048 between Hollybush and Pochin

Total aid in respect of 19 infrastructure projects (global application) £1 643 463.55

ECSC loan for 10 NCB projects

The Commission of the European Communities announced approval of a loan of £53 million to the National Coal Board under article 54 of the ECSC Treaty on 13 July (see *Trade and Industry* 15 July page 51). The loan will help to finance the following 10 projects:

Colliery	Project
Shirebrook	to increase colliery output and install coal preparation facilities
Kingswood Opencast	to construct a coal preparation plant and provide rail sidings equipped to handle MCR trains
Silverwood	to develop new reserves
Treforgen	to develop new reserves
Maryport Disposal Point	to increase capacity and install a coal crushing and screening plant
Allerton Bywater	to increase colliery output
Rawoon and Denisthorpe	to reconstruct the two collieries to increase output and provide rapid rail loading facilities
South Kirkby	to install a new coal preparation plant
Ollerton	to electrify winders and replace steam raising plant
Trecton	to increase colliery output

The loan will be disbursed in phase with the progress on the projects and the terms of each instalment will depend upon market conditions at the time of disbursement.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

Overseas trade news

UK pledges £144m to India for goods and services

Provision of British aid of £144 million to the government of India, which will be mainly disbursed over the next two years, was announced by Minister for Overseas Development Judith Hart in New Delhi on 14 July.

Five grant agreements covering this commitment will be signed later this year: a maintenance grant of £70 million for the purchase of British goods and services covering a wide range of items required to maintain existing productive capacity in both the public and private sectors; a mixed project grant of £30 million which will provide for the foreign exchange needs this year of several large British-aided projects mostly taking several years to complete; a capital investment grant of £20 million which will be used to provide UK capital goods required in both the public and private sectors – some of the aid will be channelled through Indian financial institutions; a sectoral grant of £20 million to assist the development of certain key sectors of the Indian economy through the provision of British goods and services – so far allocations have been made to the electric power and coal mining sectors; and a debt pre-financing grant of £4 million, representing the British contribution to a debt relief scheme agreed by members of the aid India consortium – unlike other British grants to India it is not tied to the purchase of British goods and services and provides a direct supplement to India's foreign exchange reserves.

Grant for industrial co-operatives study

A grant of up to £37,000 is being made to the International Co-operative Alliance by the Ministry of Overseas Development for research into the economic and social potential of industrial co-operatives in developing countries. John Tomlinson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Overseas Development, made the announcement on 5 July in his opening address to a four-day conference on co-operatives and the poor, being held at the Co-operative College, Stanford Hall, Loughborough.

The two-year pilot research study is intended to set out the key factors which make for the successful operation of industrial co-operatives, and its objective is to help create a body of well researched information which can be drawn on in a wide range of different situations when adapted to local conditions. It will also provide aid agencies with sound basic information to enable them to respond more effectively to a request for assistance in the co-operative field. Evidence will be collected from industrial co-operatives in India, Peru, Indonesia and Mali.

British aid boosts Kenya sugar project

Minister for Overseas Development, Judith Hart has approved a grant of £6.7 million from Britain's capital aid to Kenya for the expansion of sugar production by smallholders in conjunction with the Mumias Sugar Co in western Kenya. The grant will finance roads and bridges to serve the extended area of cultivation which will be farmed to achieve the planned increase in production from 75 000 to 156 000 tonnes of sugar annually.

The grant will also provide credit finance for the 11 000 additional smallholders who will become members of the Mumias Outgrowers Co, an outgrowers association. British construction engineers will be retained for the building period.

Much of the £6.7 million aid will be for local costs for development which makes viable a substantial UK commercial contract worth £23 million for factory equipment to be supplied by Fletcher and Stewart of Derby.

ECGD backs £8m loan to Cameroon . . .

A loan of £8 million, which Lloyds Bank has made available to Cellulose du Cameroun SA, has been guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The loan will help finance the UK portion of a contract awarded to Costain International for building and civil engineering works for a wood pulp manufacturing plant at Edea, Cameroon.

Voest-Alpine AG of Austria is the main contractor for the design, procurement, engineering and commissioning of the plant, which is designed to produce up to 110 000 tons of dry paper pulp a year and is scheduled for commissioning in late 1979.

. . . and dollar loan to Umm Al Qiwain

Repayment and availability of funds for a $3.8 million loan to Shaikh Ahmed bin Rashid al Moalla, the Ruler of Umm al Qiwain has been guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. The loan has been made available by Morgan Grenfell and Co, acting on behalf of themselves and a syndicate of banks.

Wharf construction

The loan will help finance a $5.9 million contract awarded by the ruler to Lilley International, a subsidiary of F. J. C. Lilley of Glasgow, for the construction of a wharf as part of the Creek development in Umm al Qiwain, one of the United Arab Emirates.

Commissioning of the project is scheduled for mid-1978.

Major export conference in East Anglia

Cambridge is the venue for the East Anglia Export Conference at the end of September – the culmination of a series of regional export conferences held throughout Britain, since they were launched by the British Overseas Trade Board in December 1975. The conference, which takes place at Churchill College, Cambridge, on 28 September, will be led by Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of BOTB, and the Duke of Kent, vice chairman, will play a major part. A number of factories in East Anglia will be visited on the day before the conference, 27 September.

Case studies

Some 200 delegates representing companies drawn from the counties of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex are expected to attend the conference to hear exporting case studies on five firms: Howard Rotovator Co Ltd, Saxham, near Bury St Edmunds; Pye Telecommunications Ltd, Cambridge; Ransomes and Rapier Ltd, Ipswich; Shetland Boats Ltd, Stanton, near Bury St Edmunds; and Spong and Co Ltd, Basildon.

The case studies, which have been researched and written by the Anglia Regional Management Centre, will be presented by writer and broadcaster Robert McKenzie.

Britain cannot float on oil to success – Dell

In a message in the sixth issue of *Export Year News*, Secretary of State for Trade, Edmund Dell said that the improvement in visible exports owed much to North Sea oil. But the UK could not float to success on a rising tide of oil. Britain had to use the opportunity granted by the oil greatly to im-

prove the competitiveness of British industry.

This would not be easy he continued. Competition in international trade would be fierce. The key to winning lay in how people did their ordinary job each day of their lives. If all did their jobs well, the UK would achieve both economic success and, indeed, greater influence in the world over decisions which affected the UK's economic environment.

Export Year News is carried as an insert to this week's issue.

Hotel accommodation in Nigeria limited later this year

A number of events will be held in Lagos, Nigeria, during the second half of 1977 which will severely limit hotel accommodation:

1 The first West African Games will be held from 20 to 28 August in Lagos and Ibadan.

2 The World Conference for Action against Apartheid will be held between 22 and 26 August and the federal military government has reserved accommodation for official visitors in leading hotels. Visitors may be asked, at short notice, to vacate rooms if additional accommodation is required.

3 The first Lagos international trade fair will be held at the Trade Fair Complex, Badagry Road, Lagos, from 27 November to 11 December. It is likely that the federal military government will commandeer several of the leading hotels for the exclusive use of exhibitors.

Intending visitors not associated with these events should note that, even though they may presently have a confirmed hotel booking, it is probable that they will not be able to obtain rooms during these periods.

Second ECGD/Nedo industrial strategy seminar held

Chaired by Mr J. Campbell Fraser, managing director of Dunlop Holdings, the second of two seminars, organised jointly by the National Economic Development Office and the Export Credits Guarantee Department for industrialists involved in exporting was held at Nedo on 6 July. The first seminar, which took place on 29 June, was chaired by Bernard Asher, industrial director of Nedo.

Both meetings gave representatives of those industrial strategy working parties particularly concerned with exports useful opportunities to exchange ideas and experience with senior representatives of ECGD and the banks about the whole range of ECGD's facilities and the ways in which they can best be used in the course of improving export performance. In particular the meetings were able to deal with a number of specific points raised in the various working party reports published earlier this year.

The seminar concentrated on three aspects of ECGD's operations. The department's handling of its routine comprehensive guarantee business, which accounts for more than 80 per cent of ECGD's operational activities, was discussed in detail. This not only improved communication, but dispelled many misconceptions; it also threw up a number of interesting and constructive ideas for improvements, which ECGD will be studying further. Individual firms will also be following up the meeting by separate detailed discussion with ECGD on the way in which the department's facilities can best be adapted to meet their special needs.

Many points were raised on the interrelationship between ECGD's facilities and the banking system and this was explored in some depth. Many of these questions will be of interest to the banks, and to other bodies – including Lord Roll's committee – which are studying problems in this area, in the context of fears expressed by some of the working parties about problems in raising adequate finance on appropriate terms to help them in their efforts to achieve a higher market penetration.

A number of questions also arose on the origins and range of ECGD's newer facilities, notably for performance bonds, and a number of constructive proposals for adaptations in the light of experience will be followed up by ECGD.

Disclosure of import information

Consideration is being given, under section 3 of the Finance Act 1967, to the disclosure of import information on the following goods:

SITC(R)	Description	Code no
693.31	Gauze and cloth of iron or steel wire	7327 1426 7327 1853
712.5	Tractors, other than agricultural tractors	8701 1812 8701 1940 8701 2088
718.41	Road rollers	8409 0007
718.42	Scrapers	8423 0060 8423 0142
	Excavating machinery	8423 0320 8423 0427 8423 0594
	Tractor shovels	8423 1123 8423 1397 8423 1664
719.31	Mobile cranes	8422 0340 8422 1271
722.2	Electrical apparatus: reed relays	8519 2965
	relays, other than reed	8519 3106
	Fixed resistors (including potentiometers) – standard and laboratory	8519 5203
	Fixed resistors (including potentiometers) – wirewound	8519 5477
	Fixed resistors (including potentiometers) – non-wirewound	8519 5609
729.3	Mounted piezo electric crystals of quartz	8521 4511
	Mounted piezo electric crystals other than quartz	8521 4568
729.95	Electrical fixed capacitors, electrolytic	8518 1157
	Electrical fixed capacitors, other than electrolytic	8518 1538
	Electrical fixed capacitors, other	8518 1972
732.3	Dumpers	8702 3017 8702 3088 8702 3138 8702 3227 8702 4197 8702 4336
732.7	Chassis fitted with engines for dumpers designed solely for use in excavating and levelling operations	8704 2665 8704 4584

The government is consulting the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 6-14 Dean Farrar Street, London SW1H 0DX, on these proposals and the association will take into account any views received from importers by 19 August.

Inquiries may be addressed to Economics and Statistics Division5, Branch B2, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5645.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1622: Imports of underwear from Spain

As already announced on 19 July, knickers, underpants and briefs, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres, originating in Spain, are now subject to quantitative restriction. The goods affected and the quota established for the period 1 February to 31 December 1977 are as follows:

Tariff heading	Description	Quota
ex 60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised, *other than babies' garments of cotton,* the following: underpants, knickers and briefs, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres	2 034 610 pieces

Imports of these goods from Spain were already subject to surveillance licensing. Outstanding licences issued under those arrangements in respect of these newly restricted goods were revoked with effect from 20 July 1977.

Goods in transit

All imports effected since 1 February will count against the quota. Goods which were already in transit to the UK on 19 July 1977 will be licensed; traders should apply as soon as possible, and not later than 2 August 1977, in respect of such goods, submitting to Import Licensing Branch documentary evidence of the date of shipment of the goods, in support of a completed form ILB/A.

In view of the volume of goods already imported since the beginning of the quota period, and likely to have been in transit when this new restriction was announced it is unlikely that there will be much of the quota remaining for allocation this year. Traders seeking an allocation may however apply not later than 19 August to Import Licensing Branch. Applications should be accompanied by a statement of past trade by the applicant for each of the years 1974, 1975, 1976 and from 1 January to 30 June 1977, supported by a report by a qualified, practising, independent accountant. A pro forma for this purpose is available from Import Licensing Branch and applications will only be dealt with on receipt of correctly completed forms.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel 01-603 4644 ext. 268.

EXPORT YEAR NEWS
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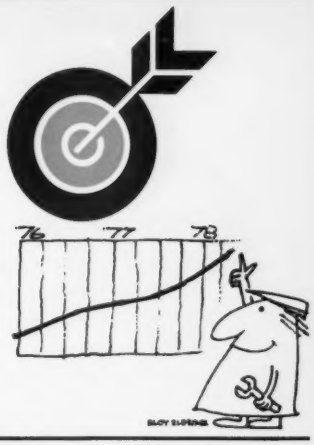

Export Year is sponsored by:
The Association of British Chambers of Commerce
The British Overseas Trade Board and its Advisory Council
The Committee on Invisible Exports
The Confederation of British Industry
The Institute of Export
The Trades Union Congress

Success beyond expectations

Support for Export Year has exceeded expectations, says Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

"We aimed last year to have a minimum of 1000 companies running Export Years, and we have 2300. We wanted shop-floor participation, and we have shop-floor enthusiasm," he said. Sir Frederick was speaking at a press conference held in London to mark the anniversary of the launch of the Year.

The target of a 10 per cent increase in the volume of exports, which had been set when the Year was launched in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh, had been exceeded, he said. This was an appropriate present by British exporters to Her Majesty the Queen for Her Jubilee.

The momentum of the campaign will be maintained by two major export conferences. Board member Sir Derek Ezra is to chair a conference on exporting to Europe on 29 November at the Wembley Conference Centre. The aim of the conference will be to examine the special challenges, and problems, facing UK exporters to the European market, and to look at some major success stories to see what other companies can learn from them.

Then on 24 January 1978, the Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the BOTB and a patron of Export Year, will chair a forward-looking conference at which the success of individual companies running Export Years will be analysed, and any lessons in company communications passed on and recorded for the future. The conference will take place at the Metropole Hotel, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

At the press conference, four companies who have been featured in *Export Year News* – British Rail Engineering, Lucas Industries, Vickers and Marks and Spencer – described how they had benefited by taking part in the Year.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Sir Frederick Catherwood,
Chairman,
British Overseas Trade Board,
London S.W.1.

I warmly thank you and all British exporters for your kind message of loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of my Silver Jubilee. I was delighted to read of your achievements in this Export Year and greatly appreciate your pledge for the future. I wish you every success in your work which is so vital for the prosperity of this country.

ELIZABETH R.

3rd June, 1977.

Her Majesty the Queen's reply to a letter from Sir Frederick Catherwood which described the achievements of Export Year

Vauxhall workers slash manufacturing and delivery time

An all-out effort by Vauxhall workers at all levels and in many departments recently enabled the company to meet an urgent order for Nigeria – by slashing the time normally needed for manufacture, preparation for shipping and ultimate delivery of 50 Chevettes from 90 to 30 days.

"With that kind of teamwork continuing through Export Year, I am sure we shall dramatically increase our exports," said Hal Carpenter, Vauxhall's director of marketing (passenger cars), commenting on the effort, which involved production, supply and shipping staff.

In 1976, overseas sales of Vauxhall cars and Bedford trucks and vans earned over £185M, and this year the company is aiming to push its export earnings significantly higher.

Vauxhall is involving all its 29,000 workforce in Export Year. A recent issue of the staff newspaper *Vauxhall Mirror* featured the Year extensively, and export posters and news sheets have been distributed throughout the company's assembly plants.

"We want to create a feeling of total involvement among employees at all levels and in every department," Clem McDermott, the company's Export Year co-ordinator and general export sales manager, Bedford commercial vehicles, told *Export Year News*. "It does not just mean shouting about success ; it means making that extra effort by everyone who is even remotely involved in export to achieve success for Vauxhall Motors and for Britain in our overseas trading."

VAUXHALL MIRROR

NEW MODELS BOOST SALES

Export Year 1977

WE'RE BACKING IT ALL THE WAY!

OUR BIGGEST ORDER EVER

The front page of Vauxhall Mirror

NOTICE BOARD

Pin this on your company notice board

A Jubilee link

Thousands of people lined the streets of Bristol to see a Jubilee procession of floats. Beasley French, manufacturer of machinery for the printing and packagi industry, took the opportunity to link th Jubilee with Export Year on its float, which was highly commended by the judges.

Tilly shows the way

Introduced by marketing executive Mike Collins, Tilly models a nightdress/ négligé set of Kapwood lace at a display of women's fashion at Jersey Kapwood Ltd, Nottingham (a member of the Carrington Viyella Group).

The company, which employs a staff of more than 700 and manufactures a large range of fabrics and lace, arranged the presentation for the East Midlands Export Year Committee, to illustrate how its management and workforce are dramatically increasing overseas sales.

The visit to the company was led by Chris Adolphe, former chairman of the East Midlands regional council of the TUC. The presentation was also attended by six senior trade union representatives from Jersey Kapwood.

Britain gains groun

Britain now has a permanent Pavilion in Poland, where one of the world's oldest and best-established exhibitions takes place every year. The new Pavilion—with the words "Great Britain" for all to see—was ready for this year's Poznan Fair, which took place in June. Many Export Year companies were among the 100 firms taking part at the Fair, exhibiting British equipment and technical expertise.

UK exports to Poland last year totalled over £180M, making Poland the second largest export market in Eastern Europe. In the first four months of this year, exports to Poland took first place, ahead of those to the USSR.

"Competition w says Edmund D

"If one looks at the trend rather than a single month, visible exports are increasing. The balance of payments, greatly helped by invisible earnings, is doing even better. Yet activity in this country and elsewhere is depressed. Living standards for far too many have fallen. Unemployment remains unacceptably high. We are by no means yet entitled to relax.

"The improvement in visible exports owes much to North Sea oil. Nor is the increasing flow of oil just luck. It is also the result of the ingenuity, hard and dangerous work of those who bring it ashore. But we cannot float to success on a rising tide of oil. We must use the opportunity granted by the oil, the temporary release from balance of payments problems greatly to improve the competitiveness of British industry.

"This will not be easy. Competition in international trade will be fierce. The key to winning lies in how people do their ordinary job each day of their lives. If all do their jobs well, we will achieve both economic success and, indeed, greater

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Edmund Dell at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo

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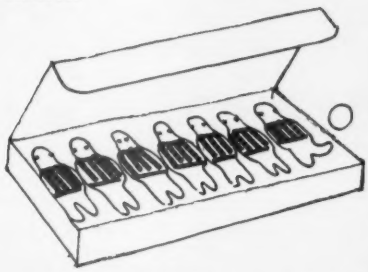
influence in the world over decisions which affect our economic environment. It is in this context that I support Export Year. Through the Year everyone engaged in earning this country's living from abroad can gain greater knowledge of how his or her work contributes to successful exporting. Increasingly we see where this is done with skill that the work is better done. This is the way to win."

Edmund Dell, MP, Secretary of State for Trade

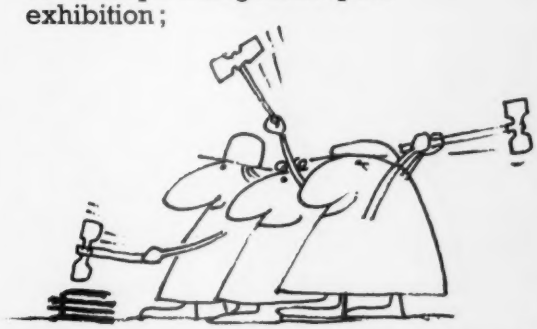
On-target activities

All sorts of Export Year activities are being arranged up and down the country. Here is a small selection from the many known to the Export Year office :

- The Mayor of King's Lynn was invited by Porvair Ltd, manufacturer of shoe uppers, to launch its Export Year ;
- O P Chocolate Ltd sent a football team from Dowlais to Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr to play the works team of a German customer ;
  Score : West Germany 9 Wales 0
  Second leg : at Merthyr Tydfil in September



- Isopad Ltd, Herts., Starline (Sales Ideas) Ltd, Blackpool, and WCB Containers, Cheshire, are among the many companies who have produced their own export stickers to speed overseas orders through the factories ;
- Transflash, the freight forwarders, put up Export Year posters around the Cleckheaton golf course for an annual competition ;
- UK-based office staff of Seton Products Ltd, Oldham, were flown to Hanover to see Europe's largest hospital exhibition ;



- Management, employees and unions of C Hemmings & Co. have hammered out a new formula for extra payments for production staff installing cold-store equipment overseas ;
- Airscrew Howden Ltd, Surrey, has had a poster competition for all its staff.

Send details of your company or organisation's Export Year activities to the Press Officer, Export Year Office, British Overseas Trade Board, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. tel: 01-215 5773.

EXPORT YEAR NEWS

"As a motivator, Export Year has certainly got results. Enthusiasm and goodwill have been generated by the campaign. There is no doubt that, with its symbol of target and arrow, Export Year has met with popularity among many workers, who will be sorry to see it end."
John Hosken speaking on BBC Radio 4's "In Britain Now"

Export Year Patrons:
HRH The Duke of Kent
The Rt Hon Edmund Dell MP
Jack Jones
Lord Limerick
Lord Luke
Sir Francis Sandilands
Lord Watkinson

Export Year News,
Editor: Peter Beckingham,
Export Year Office,
British Overseas Trade Board
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET
Tel.: 01-215 5773

Export Year helps Vickers boost deliveries

"Export Year has been successful in practical terms. It has resulted in valuable commercial engineering orders from overseas, and has also fostered still further the very important aspect of teamwork which exists here," said Alan Taylor, chairman of the Vickers Scotswood Works.

Scotswood is the main heavy engineering operation of Vickers, and the teamwork created among the 800 employees by Export Year has brought in orders for products such as container cranes, rock crushers and forging presses, required by customers as far apart as France, Jamaica and Zambia.

Sir Peter Matthews, managing director of Vickers Ltd, with the two winners from Scotswood of a Vickers Engineering Export Year competition

The Works has an Export Year committee representing all sections of the workforce. A unique feature of its meetings, says John Anderson, new-products manager and chairman of the committee, is the neutrality of the proceedings.

Regardless of union affiliations or their relative positions within the company, all members have freely voiced their opinions. In turn, the whole Works has become increasingly aware of the importance of dealing with export orders as a matter of urgency. This has helped the Works to achieve a level of deliveries which at first seemed only remotely possible.

Scotswood has already doubled the value of its exports during the first half of Export Year, and the co-operation which the Year has generated throughout the Works is seen as being of lasting benefit.

Managers and unions join forces in Scotland

The CBI and the Scottish TUC issued a joint statement recently to record their pleasure that so many firms in Scotland are now taking part in Export Year.

The statement said, "The CBI and STUC reaffirm the joint commitment to export promotion on behalf of the whole of Scottish industry. Wherever impediments to the free flow of goods to fill export orders exist, the two organisations have agreed that either jointly or separately they undertake to do all that is possible to have them eliminated."

One of the 100 Scottish companies taking part in Export Year has received a certificate from Export Year patron Lord Limerick in connection with the Export Award for Smaller Manufacturers.

The company, Stewart Wales Somerville Ltd, in East Kilbride, employs 30 staff and produces surface coatings for buildings. Last year its exports jumped 135 per cent. The staff are all kept up to date about export orders and are extremely proud of their products, which have been used on radar sites in Oman, air force bases in Iran and swimming pools in Sierra Leone.

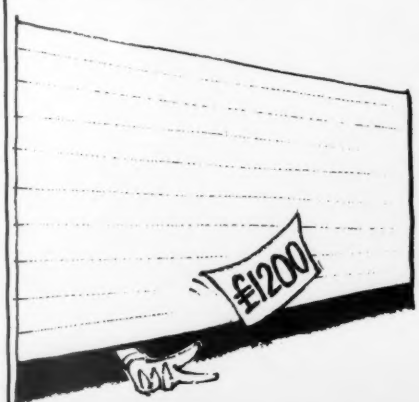
Dock-visit scheme

An opportunity for employees and students to get out of the office or the classroom is being given by the Port of London Authority. As a contribution to Export Year, the Port is offering facilities for visits to the docks to see how exports are processed from first receipt to ship loading. Students from Thurrock Technical College, who are all taking the Foundation Course in Overseas Trade, are seen here at the China terminal of the Royal Albert Dock.

London is one of Britain's busiest ports, handling some 14 per cent by value of the nation's export trade.

The £1200 hand-over

Export Year company P C Henderson International Ltd, of Romford, manufacturer of industrial and garage doors, recently received a cheque for £1200 from Sir Derek Ezra – payment under the British Overseas Trade Board's export marketing research scheme. The research, on the market for garage doors in France, is the 1000th project supported under the scheme.



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Addresses of ECGD offices

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a government department providing export credit insurance for United Kingdom exporters and insurance against political risks for new investments overseas. Although credit insurance is its main service to exporters the department offers them a number of others. Firstly the Bank Guarantee scheme, enables exporters who are eligible to obtain export finance from their bank at a special low rate. Major projects carried out by British firms in overseas countries can be financed by the buyer credit technique which gives the exporter the bulk of his payment on shipment of the goods. Similar to this is the line of credit facility which extends the buyer credit principle to include contracts often with an individual value as low as £10,000. ECGD now insures 35 per cent of all UK exports. For full details of all ECGD services contact Publicity Branch, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL, telephone 01-606 6699 extension 258, telex 883601, or get in touch with one of the offices listed below.

Central London

London, EC1 to EC4, WC1 and 2, W1 and SW1.

D. G. Hake, Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB. Tel. 01-437 2292, Telex 24105.

South London

London SE, SW2–20 and W2–14, Kent, Surrey (excluding the administrative district of Spelthorne), East and West Sussex, the eastern part of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

T. W. Hawes, 320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR9 4HL Tel. 01-686 9921. Telex 946998.

North London

London N, NW, E, the southern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Slough, Burnham and Datchet area of Berkshire and the Spelthorne district of Surrey.

C. W. Gentry, 593–599 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6SW. Tel. 01-808 4570. Telex 263615.

Belfast

The six counties of Northern Ireland.

R. H. Forsyth, River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE. Tel. 0232 31743. Telex 74577.

Birmingham

Leicester, Nottinghamshire, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands, the southern part of Derbyshire and that part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Worcestershire.

F. Wilmot, Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB. Tel. 021-233 1771. Telex 33132

Bristol

Dyfed, Powys, Gwent, West, Mid and South Glamorgan, Gloucester, Avon, Wiltshire, Oxon, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. That part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Herefordshire, Berkshire except the Slough, Burnham and Datchet areas and the western part of Hampshire.

R. A. Bounds, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP. Tel. 0272 299971. Telex 44248.

Cambridge

Bedfordshire, Cambridge, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Suffolk, the northern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and the southern part of Lincolnshire including the City of Lincoln.

H. Watson, Three Crowns House, 72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NJ. Tel. 0223 68801. Telex 81624.

Glasgow

Scotland and the Outer Isles.

F. R. Burge, Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL. Tel. 041-332 8707. Telex 77130.

Leeds

Durham, Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire, Humberside and the northern part of Lincolnshire.

W. Ford, West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AA. Tel. 0532 450631. Telex 55125.

Manchester

Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, the northern part of Derbyshire and Isle of Man.

R. H. K. Hughes, Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ. Tel. 061-228 3621. Telex 667756.

New York

In the United States of America exporters can obtain assistance from the Department's resident Representative for the USA and Canada.

J. K. Sedman c/o British Trade Development Office, 150 East 58th Street, New York 10022 USA. Tel. 212-593 2258. Telex 420543.

Overseas trade exhibitions

Tokyo hardware event surpasses all expectations

From Phillip Kynaston, Hardware Manufacturers' Association

Confirmed orders taken at the British housewares exhibition held at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo from 5 to 9 July totalled nearly £250,000 and it is anticipated that this will increase to £500,000 by the year end.

When the exhibition opened with a press preview on Monday 4 July, journalists forgot the American independence day celebrations and attended en masse the opening reception. This interest was sustained throughout the five-day event and attendance averaged 350 per day.

When originally approached to exhibit in a housewares' exhibition in Japan, manufacturers were hesitant to commit themselves and were of the opinion that it would be taking coals to Newcastle. That was 18 months ago. Now, having experienced the rewards of their research and efforts, the picture being painted is very much the reverse.

A total of 18 companies committed themselves to the task of penetrating the market and the somewhat unusual Japanese distribution system. Having taken the decision each company began the lengthy process of researching the market and identifying their position in that market. During the 18 month build-up programme many companies established trading relationships with Japan. This in turn accelerated the enthusiasm towards the exhibition.

From the outset a team consisting of the manufacturers, the commercial department of the British embassy in Tokyo, the British Export Marketing Centre, the British Overseas Trade Board and the Hardware Manufacturers' Association worked closely together to produce an exhibition which surpassed all expectations. Confidence was given to individual exhibitors and when necessary advice provided on how to tackle any particular aspect of the market.

The Prestige Group Ltd officially announced the setting-up of Prestige (Japan) Ltd, and the exhibition proved to be the ideal launching pad for its take off. Royal Doulton Ltd presented a royal jubilee loving cup limited edition, to the guest of honour Mr Matsushita, president of the Kanto Department Stores Association, as a gift from the UK housewares industry. Royal Doulton anticipates increasing its already well-established business with Japan by 30 per cent as a result of the exhibition.

The feeling among the exhibitors is that if the BEMC and the British embassy commercial department were to set up a centre in Newcastle they would be willing to start exporting coals to it.

Bestobell Products marketing manager Mr E. J. Stevens Hoare demonstrates a vegetable peeler extension to the Maxmatic waste disposal unit on display at the Tokyo hardware exhibition.

Keener interest at engineering education conference

From Eunice Brown, British consulate-general, Chicago

Eight British firms dominated the educational resources exhibits at the eighty-fifth annual conference of the American Society for Engineering Education held at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota from 27 to 30 June.

The British companies, exhibiting in a joint venture sponsored by the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association and the British Overseas Trade Board, were all members of the Engineering Teaching Equipment Manufacturers' Association. Four of the firms exhibiting, G. Cussons, Gilbert Gilkes and Gordon, P. A. Hilton and Plint and Partners are represented in the United States by CAA Scientific, Darien, Connecticut; two others, Feedback Instruments and Tecquipment, have successfully established companies and marketing organisations in the United States, while Learned Information, exhibiting as Mechanical Engineering Publications, has an agent in New York. Rhodes Flamefast was also among the British contingent, which was the only foreign exhibitor in a total of 33 manufacturers and publishers, with only several of the American companies showing a limited range of imported equipment.

The British system of engineering education, world famous for instructional laboratory work and practical training, is well regarded in the American academic world. The American Society for Engineering Education, with over 10 000 members, includes not only department heads and faculty members from universities and educational institutions in the United States, but also about 350 members from Canada and about 8 per cent of the ASEE membership includes representatives from major industrial concerns offering their own training programmes.

Continued improvement

All exhibitors reported keener interest than they have previously found at this conference for the past few years, and there were also indications of a greater availability of funds for the purchase of new teaching equipment. This was attributed to confidence in the continued improvement of the United States' economy and increased enrolment in engineering schools.

The quality and range of specialised equipment offered by British manufacturers are well-known and, for those who are aggressively export-minded, there are excellent opportunities in the market and, through major American consulting and architectural firms, in contracts for overseas projects and installations which call for engineering teaching equipment.

Next year's ASEE conference will be held in Vancouver, Canada.

Overseas trade export successes

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Infrared Engineering breaks through in Japan

Infrared Engineering, the only UK manufacturer of infrared absorption gauges used for industrial measurement and control, has won an order from Japan worth over £250,000.

The contract which has taken 13 months to negotiate, is for the supply of instruments to measure, on-line, the moisture content of specified primary products in industrial production. One of the most important will be the Japanese tobacco industry. Infrared Engineering has already sold to cigarette manufacturers in 17 different countries, and last month its recently-opened French office received an order for five instruments from the French tobacco monopoly.

Malcolm Nolan, infrared's managing director, who handles the company's overseas business, paid tribute to the help that his company had received both from the British embassy in Tokyo and the British Overseas Trade Board's Exports to Japan Unit in London. 'This is a fine example of government being of positive assistance to a small specialist company trying to get into a very tight market and we are delighted with the result,' he said.

Further information: circle 575

Bahrain contract for BOC

A team of specialist engineers from BOC's fuel gas and engineering services department (FGES) is completing the phase two part, worth £300,000, of a contract for a new natural gas pressure-reducing station at Sitra, Bahrain. Here a BOC engineer is assembling one of the pressure-reducing valves in the Chester-le-Street, Co Durham workshops before shipment.

Further information: circle 576.

British Steel wins Venezuelan contract

Following major contracts being carried out in Mexico, Iran and Saudi Arabia, British Steel is to provide engineering, technical and operating services for a £600 million steelworks in Venezuela, capable of producing 1.2 million tonnes of steel a year. British Steel's order book for work overseas is now worth more than £50 million.

The work will be undertaken by BSC (Overseas Services), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the corporation, for Corpozulia, an autonomous institute responsible for development in the state of Zulia. The new works will be situated south of Maracaibo and steel will be produced by the blast furnace-oxygen converter route, with sintering, coking plant and continuous casting.

The plant will produce steel bars, wire rod and sections, and commissioning is planned for 1982. It is hoped that subsequently the plant will be developed until it is capable of producing 5 million tonnes a year.

Further information: circle 577

Nearly £1 million in Polish orders

In one month, GKN Birwelco (Uskside) of Newport, Gwent, has won orders worth nearly £1 million, for five electric induction bar heaters, from Metalexport, the Polish state purchasing agency. The Newport firm has an established trade with Poland and has delivered some 19 induction bar and billet heaters to the Polish forging industry in the last five years.

Two bar heaters, an SFR 59 and an SFR 70, with outputs of 500 kg an hour and 7500 kg an hour respectively, are destined for a ball bearing plant in the Warsaw area where they will heat metal for forging bearing housings. Three more Birwelco heaters, two SFR 14s, each capable of delivering 950 kg an hour of heated steel and one SFR 29, with 2900 kg an hour output, are for a bolt and nut factory in the Katowice area.

Delivery of the smaller heaters is scheduled for autumn 1977 and of the larger heaters, for the fourth quarter of 1978.

Further information: circle 578

Kuwait stack contract worth £1.8m

A contract valued at £1.8 million for the design, supply and erection of two 300 ft high-pressure and two 200 ft low-pressure flare stacks in Kuwait has been won by the power transmission division of Balfour Beatty Power Construction. The installation work is to be carried out at the Kuwait Oil Company gas project site at Shuaiba, Kuwait, under contract to Kellogg International Corporation.

Due to critical maintenance requirements each of the 300 ft high flare stacks are mounted within tower structures and incorporate specially-designed facilities which enable stack maintenance to be carried out swiftly and economically.

Derrick structures are to be fabricated by Painter Brothers at Hereford, part of the BB Group of Companies, and the flare process equipment is supplied by John Zink and Co of St Albans.

Work is at present scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 1978.

Further information: circle 579

British machine tools go to US

Orders for machine tools worth more than £400,000 have been won by Matrix Churchill Corporation, the United States sales organisation of TI Machines (International).

The orders are for the Eaton Corporation of America, which has bought 10 machines for the second phase of its new truck transmission factory at King's Mountain, North Carolina. The corporation is investing in five of the latest Churchill PH400 production hobbing machines with automatic loading, four Churchill P5 15 × 40 profile turning and multi-tool lathes, and a Churchill type GS 12 universal gear-shaving machine.

All the machines, which are due for delivery before the end of the year, will be made at the Charles Churchill factory at Blaydon-on-Tyne, Tyne and Wear.

Further information: circle 580

Somalian contract for Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering

Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering's industrial division, based at Chelmsford, has obtained a £1 million order from Ente Nazionale Energia Elettrica, Somalia, for the supply and shipment of electrical distribution equipment.

The contract follows a previous order placed with another Hawker Siddeley company, Mirrlees Blackstone, for the supply and installation of four diesel generating sets for the Gesira Power Station at Mogadishu.

Three other Hawker Siddeley companies will be manufacturing equipment for this latest contract; 33 kV outdoor isolators manufactured by Brush Power Equipment Ltd, of Banbury, and power distribution transformers ranging from 5000 kVA to 5 kVA will come from South Wales Switchgear (Transformers), Treforest and Brush Transformers, Loughborough.

Consulting engineers for the project are Ewbank and Partners Ltd of Brighton.

Further information: circle 581

Largest ever orders for Hestair Eagle

Hestair Eagle of Warwick has received two orders from Africa worth £1.35 million – the firm's largest ever export deal and won only a month after Hestair Eagle was formed by the merging of Eagle Engineering of Warwick and Yorkshire Vehicles of Leeds. A Nigerian order for 90 refuse collector vehicles worth £750,000 has been quickly followed by an order from Ghana valued at £600,000.

Already this year Hestair Eagle export sales total over £2 million compared to £750,000 for the same period last year.

Further information: circle 582

Redifon provides helicopter simulator in Norway

K/S Helikopter Service A/S of Norway has placed an order for its first simulator with Redifon – a Rediffusion company. The simulator, for a Sikorsky S61N Mark II helicopter, will be used for training pilots engaged in North Sea operations and is scheduled to be operational at Forus Airport, Stavanger, in the spring of 1979.

The simulator will be equipped with Redifon's latest computer generated image visual system – Novoview SP I – generating night and dusk out-of-the-window scenes. Unique features will include the simulation of the Bendix RDR 1400 weather radar system in mapping mode, and in addition to the advanced instructor's station, there will be provision for the instructor to demonstrate, automatically, up to 10 particular flight manoeuvres.

The order is the second for a civil helicopter simulator won by Redifon in the past year.

. . . and completes 727 hat-trick

A contract for a Boeing 727 flight simulator worth over $3 million for Trans Australia Airlines completes a hat-trick for Redifon who now have three B727 flight simulators in various stages of construction at Crawley. The other two are for Iraqi Airways and Braniff International.

The TAA simulator will incorporate a six degrees of freedom motion system and, like the helicopter simulator, the latest Redifon computer generated image visual system – Novoview SP I.

The simulator will be completed by mid-1979 and will be installed at the airline's flight training centre at Essendon, Melbourne.

Further information: circle 583

Gibbons Brothers to supply kiln to Egypt

Under a contract valued at about £450,000 Gibbons Brothers, a member of the Gibbons Dudley group, is to supply the El-Nasr Refractories Company (Sornaga) of Cairo, Egypt, with a high-temperature tunnel kiln, and associated instrumentation and equipment.

The kiln will be of the open-flame intermittent push type, 95 500 mm in length, heavy-oil fuelled; with an annual output of 12 000 tonnes of chrome/magnesite refractories, fired to a maximum of 1700 °C on a cycle of 90 hours.

Further information: circle 584

Taylor Woodrow manages land clearance in Liberia

Taylor Woodrow International has won a contract to manage a mechanised land-clearance programme for Agrimeco, the Liberian government's agency responsible for all matters involving the improvement of agricultural resources.

Agrimeco's present programme, valued at an annual $3 million, is providing an additional 6000 acres each year, distributed throughout the territory, for agricultural purposes and the principal object is to make this west African country self-sufficient in rice production and oil palm afforestation.

Initially, Taylor Woodrow International will send a team of 10 highly-experienced men to Liberia who, though they will be based in the capital, Monrovia, will travel extensively throughout the country. A training programme for managers will be implemented and this may involve sending Liberian nationals to other Taylor Woodrow sites in different parts of the world and to the organisation's London headquarters.

Further information: circle 585

Heavy-duty vehicles bound for the Sudan

A Wynns Scammell Contractor tractor, bound for the Sudan, is loaded aboard a ship at Workington, Cumbria. The Contractor is part of a fleet of heavy-duty vehicles to be used by the international transport specialists on their contract to transport over 3000 tons of sugar refinery equipment from Port Sudan to a new plant at Sufaiya, Sudan, approximately 1 000 miles away.

Further information: circle 586

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Anti-dumping: passenger lifts. Following a call for tender for the supply of passenger lifts to an Australian government authority, the Australian customs representative in London is being requested to conduct inquiries for the purpose of establishing a normal value for these particular goods in the United Kingdom.

It should be noted that where Australian government purchasing involves a substantial value and a tender includes the supply of foreign goods in competition with Australian goods, it is government policy to conduct inquiries overseas to establish whether the foreign tender involves goods offered at dumping prices.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 36493/2

Music recording industry. The Industries Assistance Commission has released a draft report of its inquiry into the question whether assistance should be given to the music recording industry in Australia. The purpose of releasing the draft report is to give interested parties an opportunity to examine and comment on it before final recommendations are made.

In order to receive submissions on the draft the commission will hold a further public hearing on Tuesday 20 September 1977, commencing 10.00 a.m. at the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, 16th Floor, 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney, NSW.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent or the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4FW, tel. 01-930 2524, which will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 2149/75

Temporary additional duties on carpets. A notice in *Trade and Industry* (6 May 1977, page 236) announced that the Temporary Assistance Authority had been asked to advise whether additional tariff duties should apply to carpets falling within tariff items 58.02.

The Australian government has just announced a temporary additional duty:

1 On kitchen and tufted carpet at 7.5 per cent (general) and 19 per cent (preferential) for six months, thereafter at 2.5 per cent (general) and 14 per cent (preferential).
2 On carpet tiles, other than coir, falling within TI 58.02.9 at 2.5 per cent (general) and 14 per cent (preferential).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Primary cells and batteries. A notice in *Trade and Industry* of 10 January 1974, page 50 reported that in the continuing process of the general review of the customs tariff, the Australian Tariff Board had been requested to inquire into and report on whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of primary cells and primary batteries.

After consideration of the report which bears the title 'Batteries Part B: Primary Batteries' and which is dated 15 October 1976, the Australian government has accepted the dissenting recommendation. Tariff heading 85-03 now reads as follows:

85-03 primary cells and primary batteries:	
.100 Goods, as follows:	
1 batteries, but not including parts therefor;	
2 single dry cells, of a kind used in radios, torches and other appliances, but not including parts therefor	15 per cent and $A0.02 each
.900 Other	15 per cent

There is, with effect from 1 July 1977, no difference between the general and preferential rates of import duty on the above-mentioned goods.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Import quotas on motor cars. The Australian government has announced the immediate re-imposition of import quotas which were lifted last December on completely built-up cars following the devaluation of the Australian dollar. It was then implied that if imports rose to more than 20 per cent of the market, quotas would be reintroduced, and this has in fact happened.

A further reference has been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission for report within 60 days on what action should be taken by way of quantitative restrictions on imports or tariff quotas, and on the basis for the determination of quota allocations to individual importers. Completely knocked-down vehicles are also included in the reference to the IAC. The announcement of the basis for allocation of quotas for the next six months, which is expected to be on the lines of the 1976 figure, will be made shortly.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Barbados

Import licensing. The Barbados authorities have announced that the following goods now require licences for importation into Barbados:

Tariff no.	Description of goods
02.06	Pork, salted or in brine; bacon, ham
03.02	Fish, dried or salted
17.04	Sugar confectionery not containing cocoa
18.06	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa
71.16	Imitation jewellery
87.09	Motor-cycles, auto-cycles and cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor
87.01	Cycles (including delivery tricycles), not motorised

It was announced also that import licences are no longer required for television broadcast receivers, whether or not combined with gramophone or radio, under tariff no. 85.15.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Canada

Acrylic yarn. The Textile and Clothing Board announced on July 8 that it proposed to undertake an inquiry and to make a report to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce regarding the effects on Canadian production of all types of acrylic yarns except those spun on the cotton system, and of yarns made of blends containing acrylic fibres.

The report will recommend, as found necessary, on any special measures of protection to be implemented either to supersede or complete the special measures already in effect concerning certain types of acrylic yarns.

The board invites all interested parties to submit briefs relating to this inquiry not later than 8 August 1977. Ten copies of each brief should be supplied. All correspondence and briefs should be addressed to the Secretary, Textile and Clothing Board, Room 716, Journal North Building, 300 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H5.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Chile

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has now established the daily rate of exchange for the period 5 July to 4 August. Copies of the list are available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5289.

Cyprus

Withdrawal of Commonwealth preference. As anticipated in the adaption protocol to the Cyprus/EEC association agreement, Commonwealth preference for imports into Cyprus from the UK has been withdrawn and the EEC tariff now applies. With effect from 1 July consignments should be accompanied by certificate A CY 1 obtainable from UK customs authorities. Certificate A CY 2 can be used for consignments of a value of not more than £420 sent by parcel post. Movement certificates A CY 1 and 2 should always be accompanied by ordinary commercial invoices.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

France

Imports of live fish. An *arrete* of the Ministry of Agriculture dated 25 May imposed a general ban on the importation into France and the French overseas departments of all live fish falling under CCCN heading 03.01.

However a notice to importers published in the same official journal announced that the prohibition had been waived in respect of live fish destined for human consumption, fish farming or restocking.

Individual permits will be issued on request by the Ministry of Agriculture to importers of ornamental fish for aquariums.

Copies of the French text of the *arrete* and the notice to importers are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423.

Greece

Price controls. The Greek press recently announced relaxation of price controls on aluminium, car spare parts, tinned meat and fish, women's clothes, chocolate and cocoa, with effect from 1 July 1977. Price control on aluminium products will continue until the end of July, on baby foods and material for men's clothes until the end of the year and on wines and tinned fruit and vegetables until the next production season.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

Hong Kong

Import control: agricultural pesticides. The Hong Kong government has recently passed regulations concerning the registration and control of agricultural pesticides. A licence is required for the import of all agricultural pesticides unless:

1 Not in liquid, powder or granular form.
2 Contained in an aerosol dispenser.

Loan copies of these regulations on request from OTAR.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Iraq

Import licensing programme 1977. The notice published in *Trade and Industry* on 4 March 1977 informed exporters that an unofficial translation of the list of items which are permissible imports to private sector importers under the 1977 import programme had been received.

Information relating to 1 prohibited items; 2 items restricted to the general trade establishment and 3 items for which licences are granted only when local production does not satisfy the market has now been received and completes details of the 1977 import programme.

Inquiries from British exporters, which should specify the item(s) and CCCN number(s) in which they are interested: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

Kuwait

Labelling of foodstuffs. Article 6 of AMIRI decree published in *Official Gazette* no. 1145 of 3 July 1977, stated that a label in Arabic should be affixed on canned, bottled or pre-packed foodstuffs, containing, in addition to their commercial description, an explanation of their ingredients, properties, date of manufacture and expiry date in the case of foodstuffs, with defined validity dated.

No label should contain any statements contrary to their specifications or actual contents.

Although decree stipulated enforcement as from 1 August 1977, a special 'municipal' order is to be promulgated to confirm that a minimum of six months grace from the 3 July 1977 date is to be granted.

No further details are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

Lebanon

Whisky duty changes. *Trade and Industry* of 18 March and 8 July carried reports which concerned an unconfirmed press report on changes of duty for whisky. A translation from the Lebanese *Official Gazette* of 30 June has now been received and this reduces the duty on whisky to the rates originally publicised in *Trade and Industry* of 18 March.

The rates are as follows:

CCCN	Description
22.09C	Whisky: 1. Of an alcoholic strength of less than 50° put up for direct sale in bottles or similar containers of a capacity of 5 litres or less, the duty to be not less than value 30 per cent. Litre 200 piastres

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

Malta

Import licensing. The Malta government *Gazette* dated 14 June and 1 July 1977 carried legal notices 73 and 79 of 1977 which made the following additions to the list of items which require an import licence:

1 Water, mineral
2 Battery chargers, domestic type
3 Travertino marble blocks and slabs
4 Soldering irons, guns (electric)
5 Wrenches, hexagonal tubular (box spanners)

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

New Zealand

Import prohibition on whale products. The New Zealand government has issued the Customs Import Prohibition (Whales and Whale Products) Order 1975, Amendment no. 1, which came into force on the 13 May 1977, whereby:

Tariff heading	Description
ex 05.10	Whale teeth

are banned from importation except with the consent of the Minister of Customs and subject to such conditions as he thinks fit to impose.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Nigeria

Import of blank invoices. Intending business visitors to Nigeria are reminded that the import of blank invoices into the country is strictly prohibited by the federal military government.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064.

Norway

Food additives. The Norwegian authorities have announced the following amendments to the 1977 list of approved food additives:

1 Group V – flour, groats, biscuits, bakery and confectionery products:
Up to 1 g/kg of benzoic acid and its sodium salt is now permitted in jelly and jam coatings for cakes.
2 Group VI(b) – other vegetable preserves and their substitutes:
2:1 Aromatic substances are only to be used as substitutes and in candied fruits and for hobby winemaking.
2:2 Hydroxy propyl distarch phosphate is now permitted, however it must be declared as an approved modified starch.
2:3 Riboflavin as a colouring for powdered desserts with up to 20 mg/kg of ready-to-eat products is now permitted.
3 Group VII(c) – shortenings and fat emulsions for use in bakeries and for industrial purposes:
3:1 Up to 20 g/100 g of mono and diglycerides of diacetyl tartaric acid is now permitted for shortenings.
3:2 Up to 10 g/100 g of propylene glycol monostearate is now permitted in shortening for cake bases.
3:3 Up to 0.3 g/100 g of guar gum and locust bean gum is now permitted in shortenings.
4 Group IX – cocoa, chocolate, assorted chocolates, marzipan, cream fillings, boiled sweets, liquorice, pastilles and chewing gum:
4:1 Xylitol is now permitted in pastilles.
4:2 Colouring made from beetroot for assorted chocolates is now permitted.
4:3 Citric acid is now permitted.
5 Group X – foodstuffs not mentioned in groups I-IX:
5:1 Hydroxy propyl – distarch phosphate is now permitted, however it must be declared as an approved modified starch.
5:2 Up to 10 mg/100 g of riboflavin in mustard is now permitted.
5:3 Xylitol in vitamin tablets is now permitted.
6 In list 2 (food additives grouped according to their mode of action), group V(c) –

South-east Asia undersea telephone link to be laid by British company

Hundreds of miles of lightweight undersea telephone cable being carefully loaded into the cable tank of a cableship for an undersea telecommunications system due to be laid along the ocean floor between Singapore and the Philippines. A contract worth £28 million was recently awarded to Standard Telephones and Cables of London by the Telecommunication Authority of Singapore and Eastern Telecommunications Philippines Inc to lay the undersea link between Katong and Currimao, a distance of 1500 nautical miles. This new system, which marks a step forward in the development of regional telecommunications in south-east Asia, is due to commence operation in mid-1978.

non-nutritive sweeteners, both sodium and calcium salts of saccharin have been approved.
7 In the additives list 'galactomannan' should be altered to guar gum and locust bean gum.
Early warning. From 1 January 1978 no more than the following quantity of propylene glycol should be used as a dissolvent for aromatic compounds in beverages (thirst-quenchers): 1 g/1 kg of ready-to-drink beverage.

No further information is available.
Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

St Lucia

Consumption tax changes. By SR and O no. 24 of 1977, the St Lucia authorities have announced amendments to the rates of consumption tax payable on items classified under the following tariff nos:

22.05, 22.07, 22.09, 24.02, 27.10, 33.06, 40.11, 42.02, 58.01, 58.02, 62.02, 64.02, 64.03, 64.04, 69.12, 69.13, 71.12, 73.36, 84.12, 84.15, 84.40, 84.51, 84.52, 85.12, 85.15, 87.02, 91.01, 92.11, 94.03

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Stamp duty increase. By SR and O no. 26 of 1977, the St Lucia authorities have announced that stamp duty is now payable on bills of entry at a new rate of 5 per cent of the cif value of the goods.

However, for bills of entry in respect of fertilisers and chemicals for agricultural purposes, the rate will be of 1 per cent of the cif value.

Inquiries from British exporters, which should specify the products in which they are interested: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456.

South Africa

Import control: permit issues. The South African Minister of Economic Affairs announced recently that it had been decided to issue a second round of import allocations for consumer goods, clothing, confectionery and alcoholic beverages equal to 30 per cent of the total value of permits issued in 1976. This brings the total permits issued for the current year for these items to 70 per cent of last year's total.

The minister indicated at the same time that he would review the position again during October.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 24 June 1977:

R.1116 CCCN 73.32: Specific provision is made for spring washers of iron or steel, split or double-coiled, and the rate of duty thereon is increased from 3 per cent to 20 per cent.

R.1117 CCCN 84.12: The rate of duty on certain room air-conditioning machines is amended.

R.1118 CCCN 39.07: The rate of duty on coats, jackets and trousers of artificial plastic material is amended to 25 per cent or 200c each less 75 per cent of the fob price.

Industrial rebates

R.1119 Item 316.13. CCCN 73.32. The provision for a rebate of duty on spring washers, of iron or steel, split or double-coiled, for the manufacture of internal combustion piston engines, is withdrawn.

R.1120 Item 306.12: Deletion of tariff headings 15.07, 28.10, 28.30 and 29.22.
Item 307.01. CCCN 15.07: Oiticica oil; soya bean oil; tung oil – full duty. Deletion of tariff headings 15.16 and 28.38. CCCN 29.25 N, N'-ethylene bis stearic acid amide – full duty. Deletion of tariff heading 70.20. The provisions for a rebate of duty on: 1 Japan wax, phosphoric acid, ammonium chloride, zirconium oxychloride, diethylenetriamine and aliphatic alkylamine C6-C18, for the manufacture of textile auxiliaries, 2 linseed oil, candilla wax, cobalt sulphate and lauric diethanolamide, for the manufacture of synthetic resins and artificial plastics and 3 certain glass fibre mat for the manufacture of plastic mouldings, are withdrawn.

General rebates

R.1124 Item 412.15. CCCN 22.00: Provision is made for a rebate of the full customs duty on flavoured or unflavoured mineral and aerated waters and other non-alcoholic beverages, for sale to and consumption by members of the South African Defence or Police Force at places approved by the secretary, while such members are serving on the borders of the republic in such quantities and subject to such conditions as the secretary may impose.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Spain

Capital goods: additions, extensions and amended descriptions. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 26 May 1977 announced the following additions, extensions, deletions and revised entries to the capital goods list of the Spanish import tariff, imported at a concessional rate of 5 per cent import duty subject to the importer making application to the Spanish Ministry of Commerce:

CCCN	Description	Terminal date
Additions		
84.17 G 84.17 J2 84.18 D2c 84.10 F2b 84.11 E 85.19 E	Continuous atomiser driers operating in a positively-pressurised sterile atmosphere, specially designed for antibiotics, whether or not including generation and input systems for warm sterile air, feed pumps, cyclone separators and control units	25 May 1979
84.37 C	Tufting machines for the manufacture of moquettes and carpets	25 May 1979
84.40 G 84.40 H 84.16 A 84.59 K 85.19 E	Automatic machinery for the continuous coating of fabrics with directly-extruded plastic material, whether or not with provision for unreeling and re-reeling the fabric and control units	25 May 1979
84.45 C6	Special automatic grinding machines designed exclusively for grinding the races and tracks of bearings, with built-in feed system	25 May 1979
84.45 C6	Automatic machines for sharpening and honing razor blades made from metal strip, with an end station for separating and piling the blades	25 May 1979
84.45 C9	Automatic horizontal-axis turret presses for producing tapered cylinders for aerosol cans	25 May 1979
84.45 C14	Automatic monobloc machines for producing continuous reinforcement for concrete beams from wire or rod, by means of straightening, cutting, bending and electric welding operations	25 May 1979
84.45 C16	Automatic monobloc machines for the continuous production of screws from wire or rod by cold stamping at four or more stations, in addition to the cutting station, with point-forming and thread-forming by cold rolling in the same machine	25 May 1979
84.47 A3	Automatic saws for cutting stacked planks by means of a longitudinal-travel bridge, traversing head and swivelling circular blade	25 May 1979
85.22 B3	Machines for coating by means of cathodic sputtering produced by ion bombardment in a hard vacuum	25 May 1979
87.01 A2	Agricultural tractors with four equal-sized driving wheels, with an engine capacity exceeding 7500 cc and power exceeding 200 hp	25 May 1979
87.02 B3b	Special self-loading all-terrain vehicles with non-detachable chassis, articulated in two planes, with or without a loading device, designed for transporting logs in forestry operations	25 May 1979
90.28 C6	Monobloc apparatus for the electronic measurement of three co-ordinates, whether or not incorporating a visual read-out	25 May 1979
Extensions		
84.11 C2b	Dry-acetylene compressors, three-stage or more, with an output in excess of 180 m^3 at normal atmospheric temperature and pressure for a difference in pressure of more than 25 atmospheres	16 April 1979
84.15 C2	Automatic evaporators for the manufacture of ice in the form of flakes or tubes	25 January 1979
84.18 D1a	Cream separators and milk clarifiers	5 March 1979
84.18 D1d	Centrifuges for obtaining solids, with provision for constant automatic loading and unloading or operating by constant cycles, weighing more than 2000 kg	9 July 1979
84.22 I	Automatic arm-type handling apparatus for feeding and removing work-pieces into and from machines, controlled by coded data	30 January 1979
84.31 D1 84.33 A 84.17 J2 84.22 G4 84.59 K	Machines for making corrugated paperboard from paper weighing less than 100 g/m^2, with or without longitudinal or transverse cutters. Machines for making corrugated paperboard at more than 75 m/min; corrugating machines, glue-coating machines, drying and stabilising tables, longitudinal cutters (twin or multiple) and transverse cutters; all the foregoing when forming separate units or synchronised lines together with unreelers, pre-heaters and bridge reservoirs	16 April 1979
84.35 C	Dry or wet offset machines for printing containers or container lids with other than flat forms, in two or more colours	16 April 1979
84.37 A	Looms, weighing more than 6000 kg, for the production of carpets of the Wilton or double fabric with common pile thread type, not incorporating Jacquard or other auxiliary shed and pattern mechanisms, or of the Axminster type, whether or not with Jacquard or other shed and pattern mechanisms	3 May 1979
84.43 D	Special machines for die-casting pistons, with provision for inserting bearings and piston ring guides	16 January 1978
84.59 K	Automatic vulcanisation presses for moulding tyre-cases or inner tubes	30 January 1978
84.59 K	Machines for reinforcing flexible tubes by means of spiral-braided wire, with or without a tensioning system	16 April 1979

CCCN	Description	Terminal date
84.59 K	Internal closed-chamber rubber-mixers of a volume exceeding 200 litres	5 August 1978
84.59 K	Twin-body, single-head extruders	5 August 1978
84.59 K	Automatic machines for the winding and complete building-up of tyre cases, including machines for producing cases in twin drums for the manufacture of radial tyres	5 August 1978
87.07 A2	Self-propelled fork-lift trucks, of a lifting capacity exceeding 20 000 kg	28 August 1979
87.07 A2	Stacking trucks with a lift or more than 7 m and a loading capacity exceeding 800 kg	9 August 1979
Revised descriptions		
84.31 D2 84.16 A 84.17 G 84.17 J2 84.59 K 90.28 C6 and others	Automatic machines for coating and bonding paper, paperboard, plastic film or metal foil in continuous strips exceeding 1000 mm in width at a speed of more than 200 m/min, with or without systems for the direct extrusion of plastic film	
84.45 C1a2	Automatic single-spindle horizontal lathes (excluding copying lathes) weighing more than 3500 kg	
84.45 C6	Contour grinding machines for copying from a template by means of a pantograph, or from plans projected on a screen (optical grinders)	
Deletions		
84.18 D1d	Machines for removing stones and mud from pulped oleaginous vegetable or animal material, having a horizontal axis and continuous feed and ejection	
84.19 D	Leaf- or rib-tobacco baling or wrapping presses	
84.45 C10	Sheet-bending rollers with a table length exceeding 3000 mm and a diameter exceeding 700 mm (the lower cylinder or the upper cylinder or both may be fitted with an hydraulic pressure system), with or without their electrical and hydraulic drive systems	

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Bicycle tyres and inner tubes. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 8 July 1977 published royal decree 1643/1977 of the Ministry of Commerce announcing the suspension of import duties to be paid on moped and bicycle tyres and inner tubes of rubber, CCCN headings 40.11. B3 and 40.11. C.2d.

The suspension will be in force for a three-month period starting from 8 July 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Thailand

Import of coffee. The Thai government announced on 6 June that from that date and until further notice anyone wishing to import coffee into Thailand shall apply for import permits to the Commodity Control Division, Department of Foreign Trade, without having to purchase locally produced coffee.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Import fee on bandages. The Thai Board of Investment have issued notice 16/2520 whereby special fees are imposed as follows:

1 A special fee of 30 per cent of the cif price is placed on the import of bandage, not impregnated or coated with pharmaceutical substances under CCCN 30.04 a.

2 A special fee of 20 per cent of the cif price is placed on the import of bandage impregnated or coated with pharmaceutical substances under CCCN 30.04 b.

The Board of Investment shall determine which imports fall into this category, so as to protect industries which have promotional privileges, and they shall inform the Customs Department.

This notice came into effect on 1 June and remains in force until 31 May 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Import fee on caustic soda. The Thai Board of Investment have issued notice 15/2520 whereby a special fee of 30 per cent of the cif price is placed on the import of sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) under CCCN 28.17 a.

The Board of Investment shall determine which imports fall into this category, so as to protect industries which have promotional privileges, and they shall inform the Customs Department.

This notice came into effect on 1 June and remains in force until 31 May 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Turks and Caicos Islands

New customs tariff. The Turks and Caicos Islands authorities have abolished the preferential tariff rate applicable to imported goods of UK or Commonwealth origin. A single-tier customs tariff is now in force.

Inquiries, from British exporters, which should specify the products in which they are interested: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

United States

Electrical engineering in ships. The *Federal Register* dated 27 June 1977 published a proposal by the Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, to amend the electrical engineering regulations in passenger and cargo ships. Comments should be sent to US Coast Guard, Washington, DC 20590 by 15 August 1977.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Imports of speciality steels. A new quota period has now opened. The following table, derived from statistics made available by the US Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the United States quotas from the EEC for the 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978, and United States imports of the products concerned from the EEC during this period, as at 8 July 1977:

Pounds weight

Product	US import quotas for 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978	US imports during this period as at 8 July 1977
Sheet and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	32 600 000	2 883 980
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	6 000 000	748 709
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	5 200 000	405 587
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	15 200 000	Quota filled
Bearing steel (item 923.25)	7 000 000	68 929
Alloy tool steel (item 923.26)	7 000 000	Quota filled

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Motor vehicle lighting. The *Federal Register* dated 30 June 1977 published a proposal by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to amend the colour specification standard no. 108 for motor vehicle signalling. Comments (10 copies) by 15 August 1977 to NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington DC 20590.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Motor vehicle restraint systems. The *Federal Register* dated 5 July 1977 published details of amendments to the standard no. 208 for occupant crash protection in new passenger cars to require the provision of 'passive' (air bag) restraint protection in passenger cars, with effect from 1 September 1981 and continuing in a phased implementation to 1 September 1983.

A copy of the text is available from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Saccharin. The *Federal Register* dated 1 July 1977 published a proposal by the Food and Drug Administration due to the findings on two studies to extend the period of time for comments to 31 August 1977.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Rhodesian sanctions. The temporary procedure for imports into the United States of ferrochromium and certain special steel products announced in *Trade and Industry* 20 May expired on 18 July. From that date 'exporters declarations' must be used, the text of which is as follows:

'The (Company) hereby certifies that the products described herein have been produced in the European Economic Community and that this special certification has been issued in accordance with the procedures agreed upon by the European Economic Community and the Government of the United States.'

This declaration can only be used by companies authorised to do so by the Department of Industry. Any producer/exporter wishing to export to the United States steel mill products produced in the European community and containing more than 3 per cent chromium and which has not received a letter of authorisation should apply to the Department of Industry, Iron and Steel Division, Thames House South, Millbank, SW1, tel. 01-211-3841.

In order to avoid any delays during the changeover to the new permanent arrangements, producers/exporters should continue to supply with each shipment a transitional certificate, in the form in use up to 18 July, in addition to the exporters declaration above, until the EEC/US agreement is published in the US *Federal Register*. If producers/exporters send consignments after 18 July with only a transitional certificate this certificate will have to be replaced before 18 September by an exporters declaration.

The text of the EEC/US agreement is expected to be as follows:

The Commission of the European Communities hereby certifies with respect to all shipments from the Community to the United States of ferrochrome and chromium-bearing steel mill products containing more than 3 per cent chromium, that the materials in such shipments where they are produced or transformed within member states of the Community are governed by their regulations, implementing the United Nations sanctions against Rhodesia, and therefore member states authorities are satisfied that these products do not contain any chromium which is of Southern Rhodesian origin. These regulations also establish the procedures governing the importation into the Community from third countries of chromium ore, ferrochromium and chromium-bearing steel mill products whereby the import of such materials or products of Rhodesian origin is made illegal and liable to seizure or other penalties.

Importation of chromium ore and ferrochrome shall be allowed only from countries applying UN sanctions and if member states are satisfied on the basis of transport documents or other evidence that during transport no substitutions and other evasions involving chromium ore and ferrochromium of Southern Rhodesian origin have taken place.

With respect to imports of chromium ore and ferrochrome from South Africa, importation is subject to a regime of control of origin including the taking of samples as appropriate by an agency of the member state government. The samples are analysed by such agency either at a government laboratory or under government supervision at a laboratory designated for this purpose by such agency. The analytic techniques are adapted to the nature of the samples and are of comparable effectiveness to the analytic technique described in the United States regulations implementing the United Nations sanctions.

With respect to imports of chrome ore from South Africa, if the chrome-iron ratio exceeds 2.1 parts chrome to 1 part iron (and the ore did not originate in the Grass Valley chrome mine) such ore shall not be used for production purposes until after a full investigation has been made of the actual origin of the ore and the results of the investigation have been evaluated.

With respect to imports of ferrochromium from South Africa, if the chromium content exceeds 60 per cent (and the ore did not originate with the Grass Valley chrome mine), such ferrochrome shall not be used for production purposes until after a full investigation has been made of the actual origin of the ferrochrome and the ore used in its production and the results of the investigation have been evaluated.

Shipment from the Community to the United States of ferrochromium and chromium-bearing steel products containing more than 3 per cent chromium covered by this declaration shall be by direct carrier, or on a through bill of lading, or in continuous carrier's custody (see footnote), or by any other means whereby the identity of the goods is not brought into doubt. It is understood that these transport conditions do not apply in cases where products transit via countries that have undertaken certification and import procedures similar to the present.

Import licences

It is the understanding of the Commission of the European Communities that following this declaration the United States Treasury Department will publish a notice in the Federal Register that chromium-bearing materials may now be imported from the European Economic Communities under the special certification provisions of the United States Treasury Department's Rhodesian Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR Part 530.

It is the understanding of the Commission that scrap may be certified without limitation. Likewise materials or products in transit or drawn from stocks existing on the date of this declaration will be considered to have satisfied these rules. The producer shall certify that materials or products drawn from stock or produced subsequently under this certification and import procedure do not contain chromium of Rhodesian origin, or the chromium was imported from the United States.

Consultation and termination

The Commission is prepared to establish a procedure of administrative co-operation with the United States in order to ensure the effective implementation of the embargo. It is understood that these procedures will be applied in a manner that avoids the creation of new barriers to trade and also satisfies the requirements of the United States sanctions regulations. The Commission reserves the right to terminate the procedures after one month's notice.

Footnote. The term 'shipped on a through bill of lading' means that the certified materials, once placed in the hands of the carrier, shall not leave the possession of the forward carrier or the on-carrier until arrival of the materials in the importing country. The term 'continuous carrier's custody' means that from the time of delivery to the initial carrier until loading aboard the final ocean carrier, the materials shall not be in the custody of any person other than a carrier or a person acting solely as agent for a carrier and that no person other than a carrier or its agent has access thereto.

Inquiries: Iron and Steel Division 01-211 3841.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Pesticide programmes. In the *Federal Register*, 20 June, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published proposed regulations which would:

prescribe how applicants for registration and re-registration of a pesticide should submit data in support of the application; describe how claims for compensation should be filed for use by other persons of their data; and establish rules of practice for use in the claims determination hearings under Section 3(c)(1)(D) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

Comments should be made by 19 August to the Federal Register Section, Technical Services Division (WH-569), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Room 421, East Tower, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460.

A copy of the proposals is available from OTAR, 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Uruguay

Single import duty (Imaduni). A report has been received from Montevideo that the Uruguayan authorities have postponed the coming into effect of law 14.629. This law establishes that the import duty will be in multiples of 25 per cent and will be levied on the cif value. It was scheduled to take effect on 1 July 1977 but it is now expected to come into force on 1 January 1978.

There are no further details yet available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Oil well-head equipment from UK for Middle East

Specially designed nitrogen manifolds, complete with cylinders to inert the well-head atmosphere and prevent explosive mixtures forming, undergo final testing at British Industrial Gases, Waltham Abbey, before delivery to Saudi Arabia. The manifolds have to meet exacting conditions and be suitable for installation in the open air, without shelter, in desert areas. This latest contract brings the total value of orders for the units to more than £20,000.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,218	10,404	1,830	1,977	£ million		
1970	100.0	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	101.7	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,087	280	807
1972	104.3	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	131	−702	833
1973	110.2	36,003	10,279	1,872	2,390	1,127	404	102	382	−752	−2,334	1,582
1974	109.9	35,590	10,124	2,024	2,289	602	666	81	−111	−3,380	−5,221	1,841
1975	107.7	35,234	9,991	1,737	1,970	−680	−392	−111	−23	−1,650	−3,195	1,545
1976	108.9	35,290	9,556	1,651	1,901	−2	5	23	1	−1,476	−3,592	2,116
1975 1st qtr.	109.5	8,988	2,534	471	492	−125	18	−31	−38	−541	−947	406
2nd qtr.	107.4	8,833	2,474	444	498	−267	−105	−54	−66	−309	−655	346
3rd qtr.	106.6	8,724	2,540	416	501	−208	−234	−29	38	−579	−967	388
4th qtr.	107.4	8,689	2,443	406	480	−80	−70	4	43	−221	−626	405
1976 1st qtr.	109.1	8,811	2,460	402	452	25	31	24	12	−121	−538	417
2nd qtr.	108.2	8,730	2,394	408	478	−97	−115	−22	−55	−401	−919	518
3rd qtr.	108.3	8,824	2 392	418	484	−22	4	10	22	−543	−1,148	605
4th qtr.	110.0	8,925	2,310	422	486	92	86	11	22	−411	−987	576
1977 1st qtr.	109.1	8,720	2,235	414	478	255	180	52	80	−327	−968	641
										−7	−667	660
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.2	+0.5	−5.0	−2.0	−2.0							
on a year earlier	+1.2	+0.8	−7.2	+1.0	—							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis: at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.3	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.5	102.1	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	110.0	110.7	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2 6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	107.0	109.1	109.9	102 8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.7ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	131.2	136.2
1975	101.7	102.5	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	150.0ø	125.6	126.4
1976	102.2	103.4	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	214.5	1,269.8ø	5.4ø	120.4ø	135.9	134.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.9	102.1	107.3	103	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,220.3	5.2	116.7	131.5	126.1
2nd qtr.	102.4	103.6	107.6	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,252.1	5.3	119.4	137.1	134.6
3rd qtr.	101.5	103.6	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.2	137.9
4th qtr.	103.2	104.5	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	220.6	1,316 8ø	5.6ø	..	140.8	138.1
1977 1st qtr.	103.2	105.3	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	224.6 p	1,330.2	5.6		140.7	142.4
2nd qtr.			104.1 p		181.9	17.4	347.7 p	259.2 p					148.8	144.1
1976 May	104.4	106.4	106.8	110	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,253.3	5.3	120.0	137.2	134.7
June	100.4	101.2	107.3	91	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,261.1	5.3	115.7	138.5	137.1
July	101.4	103.7	108.8	91	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	219.0	1,288.9	5.5	118.6	130.4	139.4
Aug.	100.6	102.7	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	219.1	1,308.8	5.6	126.2	134.9	133.7
Sept.	102.5	104.5	108.9	86	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	219.2	1,318.7	5.6	125.9	137.3	140.4
Oct.	102.9	104.8	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	219.5	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	140.8	140.6
Nov.	103.5	104.9	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	220.7	..	..	..	138.1	140.1
Dec.	103.3	103.7	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	221.5	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	143.3	133.6
1977 Jan.	103.4	105.1	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	223.8	1,338.2	5.7	..	141.0	153.9
Feb.	103.3	105.6	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	224.8	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.3	133.8
Mar.	103.0	105.3	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	225.2	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	142.9	139.4
Apr.	102.7	104.0	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	226.0	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	148.8	138.6
May	104.2 p	105.8 p	104.4	108	181.7	17.1	348.2 p	259.7 p	226.8 p	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	145.0	142.2
June			104½ p		183.6	17.7	345.1 p	262.4 p		1,352.8 p	5.7	157.8 p	152.5 p	151.6 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	—	+0.2	−0.9	−1.2	+4.5		+1.8	+4.5	+1.2	—			+6	+1
on a year earlier	+0.4	+1.1	−3.3	−3.0	+18.8		+18.8	+20.9	+7.7	+6.3			+8½	+7

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ø Average of available months e estimate **Inquiries:** 01-215 3453

Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for June

In June 1977 the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by £67 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £287 million, seasonally adjusted, and the balance on services and other transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £220 million.

In the second quarter of 1977 there was a current account deficit of £7 million compared with a deficit of £327 million in the previous quarter.

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance: Trade in goods	Invisible balance: Services and other current transactions
1975	−1 650	−3 195	+1 545
1976	−1 476	−3 592	+2 116
1976			
1st qtr	−121	−538	+417
2nd qtr	−401	−919	+518
3rd qtr	−543	−1 148	+605
4th qtr	−411	−987	+576
1977			
1st qtr	−327	−968	+641
2nd qtr	−7	−667	+660 a
1977			
January	−324	−538	+214 b
February	+25	−188	+213 b
March	−28	−242	+214 b
April	+91	−129	+220 a
May	−31	−251	+220 a
June	−67	−287	+220 a

a These figures are or include projections and are subject to revision as information becomes available.

b One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate. Monthly figures of invisibles are not available.

Table 1 Visible trade on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

		Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1975		19 379	22 574	−3 195
1976		25 294	28 886	−3 592
1975	1st qtr	4 644	5 591	−947
	2nd qtr	4 611	5 266	−655
	3rd qtr	4 808	5 775	−967
	4th qtr	5 316	5 942	−626
1976	1st qtr	5 611	6 149	−538
	2nd qtr	6 209	7 128	−919
	3rd qtr	6 400	7 548	−1 148
	4th qtr	7 074	8 061	−987
1977	1st qtr	7 415	8 383	−968
	2nd qtr p	8 025	8 692	−667
1977	January	2 479	3 017	−538
	February	2 437	2 625	−188
	March	2 499	2 741	−242
	April	2 635	2 764	−129
	May r	2 609	2 860	−251
	June p	2 781	3 068	−287
Percentage change 2nd qtr on previous qtr		+8	+3½	

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Visible trade

Summary (figures on a balance of payments basis) (see tables 1 and 3)

In June, there was a deficit on visible trade of £287 million, seasonally adjusted, £36 million more than in May. Imports rose by £208 million in June, reflecting arrivals of North Sea oil and gas production installations valued at around £250 million. Exports were up by £172 million. There was an improvement in the balance of trade in oil of £121 million, largely as a result of a sharp recovery in crude oil exports following their erratic fall in May.

In terms of volume, exports rose by 5 per cent, following the fall of 2½ per cent in May, while imports were up by 6½ per cent, wholly accounted for by the North Sea installations. The export unit value index was little changed in June, while the import unit value index rose marginally. The terms of trade index fell slightly.

In the second quarter of 1977, the visible trade deficit was £667 million compared with £968 million in the first quarter (which included an erratically high figure for imports in January). In the second quarter there were substantial imports of North Sea oil and gas production installations and other equipment, valued at around £300 million. The balance of trade in oil improved by £121 million. Total exports were valued at £8,025 million, 8 per cent higher than in the previous quarter, with volume up by 6 per cent, having been unchanged between the two previous quarters. Total imports, at £8,692 million, showed an increase of 3½ per cent in value and 1 per cent in volume. If the North Sea installations are excluded, value is unchanged and volume falls by 1½ per cent between the two quarters. However, this fall partly reflects the distorted January figure referred to above. Between the two quarters the export unit value index and import unit value index both rose by about 2½ per cent, leading to a small fall in the terms of trade index.

Table 2 Invisibles¶

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

		Credits	Debits	Invisible balance
1975		11 076	9 531	+1 545
1976		13 703	11 587	+2 116
1975	1st qtr	2 658	2 252	+406
	2nd qtr	2 712	2 366	+346
	3rd qtr	2 786	2 398	+388
	4th qtr	2 920	2 515	+405
1976	1st qtr	3 060	2 643	+417
	2nd qtr	3 279	2 761	+518
	3rd qtr	3 594	2 989	+605
	4th qtr	3 770	3 194	+576
1977	1st qtr	3 802	3 161	+641
	April			+220*
	May			+220*
	June			+220*

¶ See note 6.

* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

Exports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Area analysis (see table 4). In the second quarter of 1977 the value of exports to the developed countries, in aggregate, was 9 per cent higher than in the previous quarter. Deliveries to the EEC continued to increase strongly and rose by 11 per cent between the quarters, and the value of goods despatched to the rest of western Europe was up by 12 per cent, partly reflecting trade in diamonds. Exports to North America were 7 per cent higher, but shipments to the other developed countries decreased by 4½ per cent. The value of goods despatched to the developing countries as a whole increased by 10 per cent in the second quarter, with the value of shipments to the oil exporting countries 7 per cent higher, a slightly slower rate than previously, while exports to the other developing countries were 14 per cent above the low first quarter level. Exports to the centrally planned economies rose by 20 per cent, partly the result of high deliveries of ships in May.

Commodity analysis (see tables 5, 6 and 7). The value of exports of manufactured goods was 9 per cent higher in the second quarter of 1977 than in the first quarter. This increase resulted from a 7 per cent growth in volume and 2 per cent rise in prices. Within manufactured goods, the value of exports of machinery and transport equipment rose by 10 per cent, mainly reflecting increased volume. Machinery exports were 6½ per cent higher in value, again as a result of higher volume, and exports of transport equipment were up 9 per cent in volume terms, reflecting rises in value of 7 per cent in exports of road motor vehicles and 42 per cent in deliveries of other transport equipment. Chemical exports increased by 6½ per cent in value with volume up by 4½ per cent. The value and volume of deliveries of metals rose by 11 per cent. Shipments of textiles fell by 1 per cent in value with a fall of 2½ per cent in volume. The value of other manufactured goods exported in the second quarter rose by 15 per cent. Exports of non-manufactured goods in total rose by about 8 per cent in value. Shipments of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 7 per cent, entirely reflecting higher export prices, while deliveries of basic materials decreased by 9½ per cent, with a fall of 12 per cent in volume. Fuel exports increased in value in the quarter by 19 per cent, wholly reflecting an increase of 64 per cent, to £265 million, in shipments of crude oil.

Imports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

The quarterly comparisons for some of the component series are likely to have been affected because of difficulties in the seasonal adjustment of the January figures – see note 10.

Commodity analysis (see tables 8, 10 and 11). In the second quarter of 1977, the value of imports of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 4½ per cent with the price increase the predominant factor. Imports of fuels fell by

3 per cent in value and 4 per cent in volume. Imports of industrial materials in total rose by 3 per cent in value terms, with price the major factor as volume was little changed. Within the group, there were falls of 13 per cent in the value of basic material imports (particularly metal ores and textile fibres) and 1½ per cent in chemical imports, in both cases from high first quarter levels; volume fell by 14 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. Imports of other semi-manufactures rose 14 per cent in value (largely due to precious stones and iron and steel), with volume contributing more than price. Imports of finished manufactures reflected the imports of the North Sea oil and gas production installations in June, rising 10 per cent in value and 6 per cent in volume between the quarters. The effects on machinery imports (into which category the production installations fall) was even more marked, with value increased by 25 per cent and volume by 13 per cent. Excluding these items, machinery imports would have been unchanged in value terms and have fallen by 1½ per cent in volume. Road motor vehicles imports were 2 per cent higher in value terms after a substantial rise in the first quarter, while imports of other transport equipment increased by 28 per cent, largely reflecting several imports of large aircraft in the quarter. For these two categories combined, increased volume was the major factor, accounting for the 7½ per cent rise in value. Other finished manufactures (which include certain consumer goods) fell by 5 per cent in value and 5½ per cent in volume.

Area analysis (see table 9). In the second quarter of 1977 the value of imports from the developed countries rose by 9½ per cent compared with the previous three months. Imports from the rest of western Europe increased by 28 per cent, almost entirely reflecting high deliveries of North Sea oil and gas production installations in June. Arrivals from the other developed countries were also high, rising by 11 per cent from the subdued first quarter levels, and deliveries from the EEC, which declined in June following strong increases in each of the three previous months, were up by 4½ per cent between the quarters.

Table 3 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis

Indices 1970 = 100

	Unit values (Not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (Seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports	Imports	Terms of trade †	Exports	Imports
1975	198.5	245.0	81.0	125.6	126.4
1976	240.6	299.4	80.4	135.9	134.2
1975 1st quarter	184.9	239.8	77.1	128.8	127.9
2nd quarter	193.4	240.4	80.4	122.6	122.0
3rd quarter	202.2	246.4	82.1	121.3	128.3
4th quarter	210.1	259.7	80.9	129.6	127.4
1976 1st quarter	219.0	268.3	81.6	131.5	126.1
2nd quarter	234.2	291.7	80.3	137.1	134.6
3rd quarter	247.4	307.3	80.5	134.2	137.9
4th quarter	261.7	330.0	79.3	140.8	138.1
1977 1st quarter	274.5	340.7	80.6	140.7	142.4
2nd quarter p	281.0	350.0	80.3	148.8	144.1
1977 January	272.7	336.7	81.0	141.0	153.9
February	273.9	340.1	80.5	138.3	133.8
March	276.8	345.2	80.2	142.9	139.4
April	277.4	348.7	79.6	148.8	138.6
May r	282.5	349.4	80.9	145.0	142.2
June p	283.2	351.9	80.5	152.5	151.6
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+2½	+2½	−½	+6	+1

† Export unit value index as a percentage of the import unit value index.
p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 4 Exports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976	25 778	9 174	4 275	3 098	1 943	3 143	3 362	727
1976 2nd quarter	6 310	2 246	1 053	773	472	751	807	183
3rd quarter	6 500	2 342	1 061	797	490	786	837	182
4th quarter	7 228	2 628	1 247	837	481	911	909	187
1977 1st quarter	7 562	2 763	1 297	886	537	997	887	201
2nd quarter p	8 322	3 054	1,452	947	514	1 066	1 011	241
1977 April	2 734	970	455	314	175	350	351	73
May r	2 704	1 018	498	289	174	351	317	92
June p	2 884	1 065	500	344	165	365	343	76
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+10	+11	+12	+7	−4½	+7	+14	+20

¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates

Table 5 Exports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment								
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1976	25 778	1 694	776	1 255	21 347	10 126	7 062	2 224	840	3 047	2 347	934	4 892	707
1976 2nd quarter	6 310	406	182	286	5 229	2 514	1 741	553	203	733	575	223	1 228	170
3rd quarter	6 500	419	197	333	5 414	2 530	1 753	561	200	783	635	240	1 204	178
4th quarter	7 228	472	232	395	5 913	2 735	1 910	601	246	860	653	267	1 397	183
1977 1st quarter	7 562	504	251	479	6 169	2 764	1 951	623	203	899	684	287	1 527	193
2nd quarter p	8 322	539	227	570	6 739	3 048	2 074	667	288	956	758	285	1 752	222
1977 April	2 734	158	81	186	2 208	998	676	210	79	313	256	95	587	92
May r	2 704	185	70	151	2 232	1 021	686	235	124	312	244	90	595	55
June p	2 884	196	77	233	2 298	1 029	712	222	85	331	259	99	570	75
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+10	+7	−9½	+19	+9	+10	+6½	+7	+42	+6½	+11	−1	+15	+15

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

Imports from north America were only 2 per cent higher, despite the sharp increase in June which partly reflected imports of aircraft. Among the developing countries there was a 5 per cent fall in imports from both the oil exporting countries (reflecting lower oil imports) and the other developing countries (from the high first quarter level), while deliveries from the centrally planned economies fell by 7 per cent.

Invisibles (see table 2)

The latest estimate of invisibles relates to the first quarter of 1977, when credits on services and other transactions were £3,802 million and debits £3,161 million, giving a surplus of £641 million for the quarter. The surplus is projected to be running currently at £220 million a month.

Notes

1 Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted im-

Table 6 Exports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
Weights	1,000	64	34	26	844	410	276	134	97	119	49	169
1976	139.4	156	122	108	140	133	135	130	171	108	124	168
1976 2nd quarter	140.3	151	119	104	141	135	135	130	167	110	122	173
3rd quarter	137.3	152	118	114	139	130	132	124	171	114	126	161
4th quarter	144.6	161	131	121	144	134	134	136	180	111	130	176
1977 1st quarter	144.3	165	138	134	144	129	131	126	176	118	132	184
2nd quarter p	155.0	164	122	151	154	139	138	137	185	131	129	204
1977 April	155.4	151	128	152	154	137	135	128	183	134	131	213
May r	150.8	165	111	122	152	139	137	154	179	125	124	205
June p	158.7	176	126	178	156	140	143	130	192	135	132	195
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+7½	−½	−12	+12	+7	+7½	+5	+9	+4½	+11	−2½	+11

p Provisional estimates.

Table 7 Exports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
1976	240.1	213	240	553	234	245	250	234	238	228	202	221
1976 2nd quarter	234.3	211	229	530	229	242	248	230	232	216	196	213
3rd quarter	247.4	220	249	553	242	254	258	246	245	233	207	226
4th quarter	261.7	229	262	608	256	269	273	260	259	247	222	239
1977 1st quarter	274.4	238	276	643	268	284	288	275	272	255	235	249
2nd quarter p	280.9	252	285	671	274	288	288	288	280	258	244	256
1977 April	277.2	248	287	636	271	285	286	282	278	259	238	250
May r	282.3	251	285	679	275	289	288	290	282	261	244	258
June p	283.1	258	283	698	275	289	289	290	279	255	251	260
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+2½	+6	+3	+4½	+2	+1½	—	+4½	+2½	+1½	+4	+3

p Provisional estimates.

Table 8 Imports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures						
									Machinery and transport equipment†					
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Other	Miscellaneous
1976	31 213	4 993	5 652	11 296	3 223	2 000	6 073	8 860	6 389	4 637	1 389	354	2 471	412
1976 2nd quarter	7 678	1 250	1 346	2 735	760	486	1 489	2 151	1 572	1 180	325	99	279	117
3rd quarter	8 110	1 266	1 493	2 904	856	515	1 532	2 344	1 716	1 255	392	64	628	107
4th quarter	8 744	1 406	1 511	3 239	929	568	1 743	2 543	1 831	1 293	416	96	713	92
1977 1st quarter	8 954	1 490	1 390	3 376	988	629	1 758	2 666	1 897	1 289	474	124	769	105
2nd quarter p	9 545	1 554	1 351	3 485	863	621	2 001	2 943	2 210	1 605	485	160	732	119
1977 April	3 010	511	423	1 154	280	207	667	845	607	435	159	27	238	38
May r	3 134	528	487	1 155	294	196	665	876	634	438	166	49	242	39
June p	3 401	515	441	1 175	289	217	670	1 222	969	732	159	83	252	43
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+6½	+4½	−3	+3	−13	−1½	+14	+10	+17	+25	+2	+28	−5	+13

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates. † Includes North Sea production installations.

port and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in table 13. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage. Included under this heading are adjustments to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) and to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair), where no change of ownership is involved. In addition adjustments are made from time to time to the level of exports to take account of variations in the quality of recording as revealed by the regular monitoring of the accuracy of the export figures (as described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual *'Pink Book' United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1965-75* (table 4 and pages 59-62) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry*, 4 November 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.

2 The adjustments described at note 1 are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports (table 1) and the monthly figures of trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 12). They are not estimated for the area and other commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in table 4 to 11 are available only on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis. Whereas comment on total trade and trade in petroleum and petroleum products relates to figures for exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analyses of the area and other commodity patterns of trade are based on the figures on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis in tables 4 to 11. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

Table 9 Imports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976	31 213	11 396	4 584	4 219	2 124	4 210	3 514	1 133
1976 2nd quarter	7 678	2 887	1 083	1 023	498	964	869	301
3rd quarter	8 110	2 828	1 231	1 122	578	1 179	912	274
4th quarter	8 744	3 245	1 283	1 191	619	1 135	969	282
1977 1st quarter	8 954	3 343	1 287	1 268	635	1 027	1 123	325
2nd quarter p	9 545	3 497	1 651	1 295	706	977	1 064	302
1977 April	3 010	1 154	455	397	249	299	330	90
May r	3 134	1 207	471	405	219	349	382	102
June p	3 401	1 136	725	492	238	330	351	110
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+6½	+4½	+28	+2	+11	−5	−5	−7

¶ See note 2. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 10 Imports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

			Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
								Machinery and transport equipment†			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
Weights	1 000	227	105	427	151	60	216	229	166	133	33	63
1976	133.5	101	87	127	93	150	145	196	197	186	241	193
1976 2nd quarter	134.1	101	87	126	92	148	144	193	196	189	244	186
3rd quarter	135.8	103	88	127	95	153	142	202	206	194	251	193
4th quarter	137.8	104	85	132	94	157	151	206	210	196	247	197
1977 1st quarter	139.6	107	76	135	97	170	152	213	213	194	283	215
2nd quarter p	145.3	107	73	135	84	166	162	226	234	219	320	203
1977 April	139.2	108	68	134	82	171	161	198	199	198	256	199
May r	143.2	109	79	134	85	158	161	212	216	199	320	200
June p	153.6	105	73	137	85	169	164	267	288	267	385	211
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+4	+½	−4	—	−14	−2	+6½	+6	+10	+13	+13	−5½

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates. † Includes North Sea production installations.

Table 11 Imports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

			Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
								Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
1976	288.6	247	704	239	260	267	217	237	232	227	253	249
1976 2nd quarter	281.4	243	686	230	248	262	210	234	230	225	251	242
3rd quarter	296.4	246	728	247	266	274	226	246	242	237	262	258
4th quarter	318.9	268	768	268	295	296	240	265	258	251	287	284
1977 1st quarter	327.6	280	790	277	310	302	248	264	258	248	297	280
2nd quarter p	336.8	297	801	284	313	304	258	269	262	252	302	286
1977 April	335.4	290	801	285	313	303	260	268	261	251	302	287
May r	336.4	297	803	284	314	304	257	266	259	249	302	285
June p	338.5	304	799	283	314	305	256	272	267	258	302	285
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+3	+6	+1½	+2½	+1	+1	+4	+2	+2	+2	+1½	+2

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

3 Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in note 1 above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the total balance over three or more months.

4 Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take the sum of three months. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flows of trade, the three-monthly total gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

5 Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

6 Invisibles (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel and insurance, banking and other financial transactions; overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers. The monthly figures are inevitably less precise than those for visible trade for several reasons; the data are not available on a monthly basis (some are reported quarterly, others less frequently) and the figures are, therefore, essentially projections based on past trends; revisions, affecting particularly gross credits and debits,

Table 12 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products¶
Balance of payments basis (division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted

	Balance of visible trade	Imports					Exports		
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of Division 33	Total	Crude oil	Rest of Division 33
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	Million tons	Average value ton £ fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1975	−3 106	3 827	3 069	85.6	35.9	758	721	30	691
1976	−3 964	5 126	4 092	85.7	47.8	1 034	1 162	177	985
1975 1st qtr	−774	949	759	22.2	34.3	190	175	7	168
2nd qtr	−682	840	696	20.7	33.8	144	158	2	156
3rd qtr	−785	976	800	22.4	35.6	176	191	5	186
4th qtr	−865	1 062	814	20.3	40.2	248	197	16	181
1976 1st qtr	−960	1 179	929	21.5	43.4	250	219	18	201
2nd qtr	−957	1 219	956	20.6	46.5	263	262	25	237
3rd qtr	−1 043	1 355	1 080	21.8	49.6	275	312	44	268
4th qtr	−1 004	1 373	1 127	21.8	51.9	246	369	90	279
1977 1st qtr	−817	1 268	1 011	18.8	53.8	257	451	162	289
2nd qtr p	−696	1 235	972	17.7	54.8	263	539	265	274
1977 January	−358	503	390	7.4	52.6	113	145	44	101
February	−204	354	285	5.3	53.6	69	150	51	99
March	−255	411	336	6.1	55.2	75	156	67	89
April	−211	387	301	5.5	54.7	86	176	94	82
May r	−303	446	357	6.5	55.1	89	143	50	93
June p	−182	402	314	5.8	54.6	88	220	122	98
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter		−2½	−4	−5½	+2	+2½	+20	+64	−5

¶ See note 7. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 13 Derivation of the visible trade figures Balance of payments basis

£ million

	Exports				Imports				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			
	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to BOP basis: Valuation adjustments	Adjustments to BOP basis: Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1975	19 922	19 922	−543	19 379	24 128	24 128	−1 580	+26	22 574
1976	25 778	25 778	−484	25 294	31 213	31 213	−2 005	−322	28 886
1975 1st quarter	4 593	4 748	−104	4 644	5 883	5 950	−370	+11	5 591
2nd quarter	4 942	4 722	−111	4 611	5 832	5 573	−375	+68	5 266
3rd quarter	4 796	4 962	−154	4 808	5 998	6 190	−417	+2	5 775
4th quarter	5 591	5 490	−174	5 316	6 415	6 415	−418	−55	5 942
1976 1st quarter	5 818	5 740	−129	5 611	6 820	6 681	−435	−97	6 149
2nd quarter	6 393	6 310	−101	6 209	7 776	7 678	−502	−48	7 128
3rd quarter	6 260	6 500	−100	6 400	7 805	8 110	−525	−37	7 548
4th quarter	7 307	7 228	−154	7 074	8 812	8 744	−543	−140	8 061
1977 1st quarter	7 674	7 562	−147	7 415	9 089	8 954	−549	−22	8 383
2nd quarter p	8 377	8 322	−297	8 025	9 641	9 545	−569	−285	8 692
1977 January	2 345	2 533	−54	2 479	3 011	3 226	−197	−12	3 017
February	2 390	2 506	−69	2 437	2 740	2 853	−172	−56	2 625
March	2 940	2 522	−23	2 499	3 338	2 875	−180	+46	2 741
April	2 575	2 734	−99	2 635	2 928	3 010	−179	−67	2 764
May r	2 959	2 704	−95	2 609	3 306	3 134	−193	−82	2 860
June p	2 843	2 884	−103	2 781	3 407	3 401	−197	−136	3 068
Percentage change 2nd quarter on previous quarter	+9	+10		+8	+6	+6½			+3½

† Components and totals are rounded independently. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

but often the balance as well, are more frequent; and the gross figures themselves include a number of items which are appropriately recorded as the net profit or surplus arising on the transactions.

7 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 12) accounts for almost all the trade in fuels, section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in tables 5 and 8. Import and export figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in table 12 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels total in table 8. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* and the *Digest of Energy Statistics*, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

For imports, the average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

The figures of value of crude oil exports have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels total in table 5. These figures include oil which has been re-exported.

8 Unit value and volume indices. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry*, 26 May 1971. An article was published in *Trade and Industry* on 11 October 1973 introducing the series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100. The purpose of the index numbers is to measure the changes in price and volume of our imports and exports. Index numbers can be constructed in various ways, and the series used here are of the fixed base type. Thus, the unit value indices measure changes in 'price' of a fixed selection of trade headings (although in practice it is not specific prices which are measured but the average price of all the varying transactions taking place each month in the selected headings, reflecting different kinds of goods covered by each heading and different markets or sources of supply).

Correspondingly, the volume indices measure, for the same selection of trade headings, what the change in the value of trade would be assuming no changes in the prices charged from those in the base year. Because the indices are base weighted, they do not take account of the changes in the pattern of trade since the base year, and consequently their product does not precisely account for the change in the value of trade expressed as an index. In practice, though, since the composition of trade changes little between consecutive months, the product of the changes in the indices will often approximate to the change in the value of trade between one month and the next. A full methodological article about the 1970-based series of indices was published in the April 1975 issue of *Economic Trends*. Adjustments have been made to the import volume index to include North Sea oil production installations, however no changes have been made to the base-weighted unit value index.

9 Definition of areas. The areas used in tables 4 and 9 comprise the following countries:
EEC: West Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Denmark and Irish Republic.
Rest of Western Europe: Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Portugal, Austria, Andorra, Vatican City, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Spain, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Malta, Continental Shelf (Foreign Part).
North America: USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, Greenland, St Pierre and Miquelon.
Other developed countries: Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Africa.
Centrally planned economies: Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, China, North Korea, Outer Mongolia and Vietnam.
Oil exporting countries: Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Dubai Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, etc, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela.
Other developing countries: All other countries.

10 Seasonally adjusted import figures for December and January. Because of difficulties of allowing fully in the seasonal adjustment procedure for the effects of the 1976/77 Christmas/new year holiday period, the seasonally adjusted imports figures for December are probably understated and those for January correspondingly overstated. Exports are probably little affected.

Overseas Trade Statistics
Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for June with cumulative totals will be published on 27 July* and further analysis of the figures will be found in tables 14.1 to 14.19 in the *Monthly Digest* for July†, due to be published in the second week of August.

Inquiries: 01-215 3131 (value data), 01-215 3466 (indices).

* *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*, HMSO, £6.50 (annual subscription £93.60).
† *Monthly Digest of Statistics*, HMSO, £1.95 (annual subscription including supplement of definitions and postage, £27.86).

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Engineering sales and orders up to April

SIC orders VII, VIII and IX

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders up to April, together with revisions to earlier figures from January, indicate that sales and new orders have been flat in recent months, following some improvement during 1976. The inflow of new orders from the home market continued to increase but this was offset by some decline in new overseas contracts from their previous relatively high level. Sales to both markets were little changed. There are some indications that home order books have begun to lengthen, and export orders-on-hand continued to rise.

The trend of new home orders has risen at a fairly steady rate since the end of 1975; in the three months to April this year the increase was 4 per cent. This has as yet had little effect on domestic sales which fell very slightly during the recent period and are at a level only just above the trough of the first quarter 1976. The inflow of new orders has been above the level of sales during the last three months, so home order books lengthened slightly on a seasonally adjusted basis, though this recent growth has not yet been reflected in the trend.

New orders from abroad increased markedly last year, especially in the electrical engineering sector. The inflow continued fairly strong but not at such high levels in recent months, so the trend declined by 7 per cent between January and April. Export sales continued on the flat path they have displayed for several months, following some increase in the first half of 1976. There was a further increase of 2 per cent in export orders-on-hand during the three months to April, as new orders, despite their decline, continued higher than sales.

The combined effect of recent movements in home and export markets produced a very slight decrease in the trend of total sales between January and April, whilst total new orders were unchanged. Orders books have been stable for several months according to the trend estimate, but the seasonally adjusted figures suggest they may have begun to edge upwards again.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to April 1977. The response rate of 77 per cent to the inquiry for April is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for January, February and March 1977 response rates for these months were 91, 93 and 92 per cent respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand, December 1970 unadjusted = 100
Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1975									
July	110	91	107	105	86	104	122	103	115
August	108	90	106	102	85	103	120	101	114
September	106	88	105	99	84	102	118	99	113
October	103	87	104	96	83	101	116	96	112
November	101	87	103	94	83	100	114	95	112
December	99	87	103	92	84	99	112	94	112
1976									
January	97	88	103	90	86	98	110	94	114
February	95	90	103	89	88	98	108	96	116
March	93	93	104	87	89	99	106	101	117
April	92	95	105	86	90	100	105	106	118
May	91	97	105	84	90	100	104	113	119
June	90	100	105	83	91	100	105	121	118
July	90	103	105	82	93	100	106	128	118
August	90	106	105	81	94	100	108	133	117
September	90	107	105	81	95	100	110	137	117
October	91	108	106	80	96	101	112	137	118
November	91	108	106	79	97	101	114	135	118
December	91	108	105	79	97	100	115	132	118
1977									
January	91	108	105	78	98	100	116	130	118
February	91	107	105	78	100	100	117	127	118
March	91	107	105	78	101	99	118	124	118
April	91	108	105	77	102	99	118	121	118
Percentage change (b) Jan-April 1977	—	—	−0.5	−1.0	+4.0	−0.5	+1.5	−7.0	—
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	131	131	102
1974	128	109	111	123	105	111	139	118	113
1975	99	90	108	91	87	105	113	98	115
1976	91	100	105	78	92	100	117	119	117
1975									
1st quarter	119	89	112	114	89	110	128	89	118
2nd quarter	113	95	109	108	92	106	124	102	115
3rd quarter	106	90	107	100	86	103	118	101	114
4th quarter	99	85	103	91	80	100	113	98	112
1976									
1st quarter	94	92	103	88	90	98	106	96	116
2nd quarter	90	95	106	83	90	101	103	107	119
3rd quarter	90	107	106	81	96	101	109	133	118
4th quarter	91	106	105	78	92	99	117	141	118
1977									
1st quarter	91	109	105	78	102	101	118	125	117
1975									
July	109	84	109	104	77	105	121	99	120
August	108	93	102	102	84	99	121	115	110
September	106	94	109	100	96	107	118	88	113
October	103	84	107	96	79	104	116	96	112
November	101	85	103	94	83	98	113	89	114
December	99	87	100	91	77	96	113	110	110
1976									
January	96	84	102	89	84	98	109	82	114
February	95	95	101	89	94	96	108	97	113
March	94	97	106	88	92	100	106	109	120
April	92	92	108	86	89	103	105	100	120
May	90	94	107	84	89	102	103	104	120
June	90	99	102	83	91	97	103	118	116
July	90	105	104	82	84	97	108	157	120
August	90	103	104	81	95	100	109	122	114
September	90	112	109	81	109	105	109	119	119
October	91	107	105	80	91	100	112	146	117
November	92	113	106	80	98	99	116	149	120
December	91	98	105	78	87	99	117	126	117
1977									
January	90	108	105	77	100	100	116	128	117
February	91	112	105	78	110	101	116	118	116
March	91	107	106	78	97	101	118	130	118
April	91	107	103	78	100	97	118	122	119
Nov 76-Jan 77 (av.)	90	106	105	77	95	100	116	135	118
Feb-April 1977 (av.)	91	109	105	78	103	100	118	123	118
Percentage change (b)	+1.5	+2.0	—	+1.5	+8.0	—	+2.0	−8.5	−0.5

(a) All figures are provisional.

(b) For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biasses, which may lead to revisions in due course.

An expanded commentary, together with additional tables, is given in Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £2.22 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Inquiries: 01-212 5770.

Wool textile industry output

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally-adjusted index of production) in April 1977 was 6 per cent more than in April 1976. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-April 1977 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 10 per cent higher than in January-April 1976; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 9 per cent higher. Production of wool and hair tops was 6 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 5 per cent more.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6479.

Guide to government statistics

see centre pages
Trade and Industry,
15 July 1977

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn[1]	Worsted yarn[2]	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets)[1]		Blankets[3]
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq m		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975	110.6	46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1976	119.7	56.5	47.2	108.0	80.8	73.6	69.4	22.8
1975								
1st qtr	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd qtr	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
3rd qtr	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
4th qtr	28.7	12.3	9.6	28.4	19.9	16.8	17.6	6.4
1976								
1st qtr	31.0	13.8	11.6	29.4	20.6	16.9	18.2	6.5
2nd qtr	30.5	14.5	12.1	27.9	20.3	19.6	16.9	4.4
3rd qtr	27.6	13.4	10.6	23.7	18.2	19.4	16.9	5.2
4th qtr	30.6	14.6	13.0	27.0	21.7	17.9	17.5	6.5
1977								
1st qtr	32.4	15.3	12.6	30.0	23.1	19.6	18.8	6.7
1976								
January	10.0	4.5	4.3	9.5	6.4	5.1	5.8	2.6
February	9.6	4.2	3.2	9.2	6.6	5.3	5.9	1.9
March	11.4	5.1	4.1	10.7	7.6	6.5	6.5	2.0
April	10.4	5.0	3.9	9.5	7.0	5.7	5.5	1.5
May	10.2	4.8	4.6	9.3	7.0	7.0	5.6	1.4
June	9.9	4.7	3.6	9.1	6.3	6.9	5.8	1.5
July	8.7	4.6	3.8	7.1	5.9	6.1	5.6	1.5
August	8.3	3.5	2.8	7.7	5.3	6.0	4.6	1.7
September	10.6	5.3	4.0	8.9	7.0	7.3	6.7	2.0
October	10.5	4.9	4.9	9.4	7.9	7.1	6.0	2.2
November	10.9	5.4	4.4	9.6	7.7	6.0	6.2	2.2
December	9.2	4.3	3.7	8.0	6.1	4.8	5.3	2.1
1977								
January	10.3	5.0	4.0	9.0	7.2	5.8	5.9	2.4
February	10.2	4.8	4.0	9.1	7.5	6.2	6.0	2.2
March	11.9	5.5	4.6	10.8	8.4	7.6	6.9	2.1
April		4.6	3.8	8.6	6.4	6.6	5.7	1.7

[1] Estimated. [2] From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the worsted yarn headings. In April deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.6 million kilos. [3] Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components.

Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries in April

In the three months ended April 1977, deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 3 per cent lower than in the preceding three months while net new orders were 1 per cent higher. Orders-on-hand at the end of April 1977 were 8 per cent higher than the end-January 1977 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying tables.)

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

Inquiries: 01-212 0116.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974	145		115		114	
1975	142		118		115	
1976 p	142		120		116	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1975						
1st qtr	135	139	116	124	116	121
2nd qtr	165	151	133	119	114	112
3rd qtr	129	141	97	114	114	115
4th qtr	142	149	128	117	116	112
1976						
1st qtr	126	130	109	113	113	114
2nd qtr	148	135	126	116	106	109
3rd qtr	134	147	108	128	120	122
4th qtr p	142	149	135	123	124	119
1977						
1st qtr p	144	148	126	130	121	123
1976						
Jan	129	128	94	111	102	123
Feb	128	130	115	117	116	113
Mar	126	130	117	111	119	107
Apr	132	131	128	117	105	104
May	150	134	149	122	111	118
Jun	148	135	101	109	103	105
Jul	147	148	102	137	117	122
Aug	136	143	88	114	108	122
Sep	134	147	135	134	136	123
Oct p	140	144	159	122	140	119
Nov p	146	141	148	118	129	118
Dec p	142	149	98	128	104	119
1977						
Jan p	142	141	112	132	107	129
Feb p	138	140	126	128	128	125
Mar p	144	148	139	131	128	115
Apr p	153	152	134	122	116	115

Production in the cotton industry in April

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in January-April 1977 the amount of cloth woven was 4 per cent less than in January-April 1976. Production of single yarn increased by 3 per cent and doubled yarn increased by 6 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Double yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg				million m	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4	68.4		405.4	503.0
1976	106.5	76.1	69.4		374.5	492.9
1976 January	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.6	11.0
February	2.2	1.4	1.4		8.3	10.8
March*	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.3	10.5
April	1.9	1.4	1.2		6.6	8.7
May	2.4	1.7	1.5		8.0	10.5
June*	1.7	1.3	1.1		7.0	8.7
July	1.8	1.3	1.2		4.3	6.8
August	2.1	1.6	1.4		7.3	9.0
September*	1.8	1.3	1.2		6.4	8.7
October	2.3	1.7	1.6		7.9	10.6
November	2.4	1.7	1.6		7.9	10.7
December*	1.7	1.3	1.1		6.0	8.2
1977 January	2.2	1.7	1.5		7.7	10.3
February	2.3	1.7	1.6		7.9	10.7
March*	2.2	1.8	1.6		7.9	10.7
April	1.7	1.4	1.2		6.3	8.8

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended April 1977 deliveries were estimated to be 4 per cent lower, on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended January 1977. Net new orders were 16 per cent lower than in the previous three months, while at the end of April orders on hand were 15 per cent up on the January 1977 level. The index of output in the three months ended April 1977 was 1 per cent lower than in the three months ended January 1977.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor production series under the reference PQ 450.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the Standard Industrial Classification). In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

The data on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC, employing 25 or more persons.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787.

Index of output: orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)		Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs	£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs
1966		33.6					16.4			
1967		37.8		16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6		17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6		15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9		16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5	55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5	59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2	85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	107	44.3	79.5	14.3		30.9	14.4		31.3	18.0
1975	101	38.8	91.8	13.2		36.2	13.7		35.1	15.8
1976	101	46.8	132.9	13.8		42.8	13.1		39.4	14.4
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1975 1st quarter	106	36.2	63.2	11.9	11.0	31.3	14.6	14.6	36.7	18.3
2nd quarter	95	41.2	82.4	14.0	13.4	36.8	12.3	13.1	30.4	23.1
3rd quarter	101	33.1	70.0	11.4	13.9	33.1	14.1	13.8	37.2	17.4
4th quarter	101	38.8	91.8	15.5	14.6	43.4	13.6	13.4	36.1	15.8
1976 1st quarter	101	42.6	89.2	14.6	13.1	38.9	13.3	12.9	39.8	19.0
2nd quarter	99	46.3	107.5	12.8	12.8	40.4	11.5	12.4	34.3	20.9
3rd quarter	99	36.9	89.7	10.0	12.0	34.7	13.2	12.8	40.7	17.2
4th quarter	106	46.8	132.9	17.6	16.9	57.3	14.3	14.1	42.9	14.4
1977 1st quarter p	108	57.1	140.7	17.1	15.7	51.6	13.7	13.4	48.9	14.7
1976 January	105	38.9	88.2	13.2	13.4	33.9	13.1	13.8	37.6	
February	104	40.0	89.3	14.1	13.2	40.3	12.9	12.8	39.2	
March	94	42.6	89.2	16.5	12.8	42.5	13.9	12.1	42.6	
April	95	43.2	94.4	12.2	9.7	39.7	11.6	12.0	34.5	
May	103	48.0	108.4	15.9	15.4	47.0	11.1	13.1	33.0	
June	100	46.3	107.5	10.2	13.4	34.4	11.8	12.2	35.3	
July	95	40.8	90.7	6.3	10.3	20.2	11.8	12.2	37.0	
August	97	38.1	87.9	8.8	11.4	33.7	11.4	12.0	36.6	
September	105	36.9	89.7	15.1	14.2	50.3	16.2	14.1	48.5	
October	104	44.9	111.7	23.6	19.0	67.6	15.6	14.2	45.7	
November	101	45.9	126.0	15.6	12.7	59.1	14.6	13.1	44.8	
December	111	46.8	132.9	13.6	19.1	45.0	12.6	15.2	38.1	
1977 January p	107	51.3	133.7	16.3	17.3	42.5	11.8	13.0	41.7	
February p	113	53.7	136.8	16.2	15.2	52.5	13.8	13.6	49.4	
March p	106	57.1	140.7	18.9	14.6	59.6	15.5	13.6	55.7	
April p	96	59.1	150.4	13.7	11.5	49.1	11.7	12.6*	39.5	

p Provisional. * Based on early returns, seasonally adjusted deliveries in May are expected to be 15 million pairs.

Wholesale price indices in June

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by 1 per cent in June to 262.4 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was ¾ per cent higher as a result of increases spread across all sectors. This index rose 3¾ per cent in the second quarter of 1977 compared with 3½ per cent in the same period last year.

Price rises for a number of building materials, especially cement and ready-mixed concrete, were responsible for the increase of 2½ per cent in the index for the bricks, cement etc. industries. This index rose by 5¼ per cent in the second quarter. Only the vehicles industry index showed a larger increase, 5¾ per cent, in the second quarter.

Widespread increases for a number of products were responsible for the 1¼ per cent rise in the index for chemicals and allied industries in June.

On the other hand the index for metal manufacturing fell by ¼ per cent in June as a result of price reductions for non-ferrous metals, notably copper, zinc and lead. This index also fell by ¼ per cent in the second quarter. The index for the steel industries was unchanged in June, and rose by just ¼ per cent in the latest three months.

Of the other non-food sectors the instrument engineering index was unchanged, whilst all the other indices increased by between ¼ and ¾ per cent. The main contributors to the ¾ per cent increases in the indices for the textile industries and timber industries were hosiery and other knitted goods, and domestic furniture, respectively.

Tea accounted for almost half of the increase of 1¾ per cent in the provisional price index for the output of the food manufacturing industries. Higher prices for bottled milk and animal feedstuffs also made a significant contribution to the increase. In the second quarter this index rose by 6½ per cent.

The change in the index for all manufactured products over the 12 months to June was 21 per cent, the same as in May.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry fell by 1 per cent in June to 345.1.

The index for coal, gas and electricity again rose by 1¼ per cent, with further gas price rises mainly responsible for the increase. This index rose 8 per cent in the second quarter.

The index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries fell by 1 per cent. There were lower prices for many imported materials, particularly copper, zinc, lead, silver, cotton and hides and skins. This index is now at the same level as in January, reflecting the stability in the exchange rate of sterling against major foreign currencies over this period.

Reductions in the prices of copper, zinc and lead were largely responsible for the falls of ¾ per cent and 2¾ per cent respectively in the indices of materials and fuel purchased by the electrical engineering industries and the non-ferrous metals industry. In the latter index there were also lower prices for tin and brass but higher prices for aluminium and bauxite. The indices (for electrical engineering and non-ferrous metals) both fell in the second quarter, by ¾ per cent and 5¾ per cent respectively.

The fall of 1¼ per cent in the textile industries index was mainly due to further lower prices for cotton and wool. There were also higher prices for dyes but another fall in the price of mohair. The textile industries index has fallen by 1 per cent in the latest three months, in which time the price of cotton has fallen 15 per cent.

Lower prices for a number of materials were responsible for the fall of ¾ per cent in the chemicals and allied industries index, particularly vegetable and animal oils and fats, lead, tallow, shellac, phosphate rock and palm oil.

Lower prices for silver, zinc and steel sheets were almost offset by higher tinplate and gold prices in the metal goods industries index.

The sector that showed the largest increase was the pottery and glass industries which increased by 2 per cent in June and 6¼ per cent in the second quarter. The major contributors to the increase were bauxite and soda ash. Bauxite was also responsible together with sand and gravel for the 1¼ per cent increase in the bricks, cement etc. industries index. This index has increased by 4¾ per cent in the second quarter.

Lower prices for a range of imported materials, particularly coffee and tea but also including vegetable oils, oilseeds, oilcake and cereals, were responsible for the fall of 1 per cent in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries. These lower prices more than offset higher prices for milk for liquid consumption, pigs, cocoa beans and cocoa butter. In the second quarter imported food material prices fell by 5½ per cent compared with an increase of 3¾ per cent for those produced at home.

More about wholesale price indices

01-215 3544	tables 1 and 2
01-215 3549	engineering
01-215 5216	chemicals, steel, building materials, etc
01-215 3548	textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc
01-215 3173	imported commodities

Correspondence: Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Economics and Statistics Division 4, Room 249, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry*, 13 May 1977.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its aboliton) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by sectors of industry.

4 Firm and provisional indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be made if they are significant. These revisions will be notified when the series are next published.

Table 1 Price index numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976			1977					
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jun	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	292.6	306.8	329.9	341.5	347.7	299.6	331.8	330.2	337.8	339.5	347.2	349.7	348.2	345.1
	Materials†	299.2	314.6	339.7	351.6	356.1	306.8	341.8	339.8	347.9	349.7	357.3	358.7	356.7	352.9
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	230.6	232.0	236.3	244.8	267.7	230.9	236.6	238.9	241.0	242.6	250.7	264.3	267.9	271.0
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	313.5	328.3	348.4	355.8	359.1	322.1	350.5	346.3	353.4	354.7	359.4	359.7	360.3	357.2
	Materials†	325.3	342.0	364.3	371.6	372.1	335.1	366.7	361.5	369.4	370.6	374.9	373.3	373.4	369.5
Order III	Materials and fuel purchased by the food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	246.8	257.3	283.1	303.0	319.9	249.1	285.2	289.6	297.4	299.9	311.6	321.9	319.7	318.0
	Materials and fuels purchased by selected broad sectors of industry:														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	246.5	258.2	288.7	309.4	323.0	249.6	290.3	294.4	302.3	305.6	320.2	327.6	322.0	319.3
	Materials	246.5	258.3	289.5	310.3	323.5	249.6	291.0	295.1	303.1	306.5	321.4	328.5	322.4	319.5
	Fuel*	248.0	254.0	268.0	283.7	309.1	248.7	271.8	275.4	281.3	282.2	287.7	303.9	310.9	312.4
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	243.3	254.3	284.9	307.1	321.2	245.8	286.8	290.6	299.1	302.8	319.4	326.1	319.7	317.8
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	276.5	289.8	310.3	319.3	330.6	280.9	312.5	312.0	316.6	317.8	323.6	329.4	332.6	329.9
311 and 312	Steel industries	281.6	291.3	299.5	303.7	322.1	283.6	301.0	299.9	301.5	303.3	306.3	320.3 p	322.5	323.4
321 to 323	Non-ferrous metals industry	189.3	202.0	205.4	222.3	220.0	194.9	207.5	205.1	215.5	222.2	229.3	222.2	222.0	215.9
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	245.1	260.6	274.9	283.7	289.0	249.4	275.5	277.3	281.8	283.6	285.7	288.0	289.4	289.7
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	218.5	231.4	238.1	249.2	252.6	224.1	238.8	239.4	245.1	249.3	253.3	253.1	253.2	251.5
Order X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering industries	238.5	253.0	266.2	275.9	281.7	241.5	266.7	268.6	273.6	276.0	278.2	280.4	282.0	282.7
Order XII	Metal goods industries	258.3	272.3	291.4	298.2	303.4	263.3	293.3	293.3	294.2	297.6	302.8	303.3	303.6	303.4
Order XIII	Textile industries	255.9	275.1	298.8	298.6	297.1	264.3	301.2	298.2	298.6	299.3	297.8	298.7	298.1	294.6
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	209.1	219.1	231.0	240.9	247.1	212.6	232.0	232.8	239.0	241.3	242.5	246.1	247.3	247.8
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc, industries	259.0	271.1	282.4	298.3	313.8	262.9	283.5	287.2	294.1	297.3	303.5	308.9	314.3	318.2
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	248.5	259.6	274.6	289.4	306.5	250.5	276.4	280.2	285.9	288.6	293.7	301.6	306.0	312.0
Order XVII	Timber industries	259.7	285.9	307.0	319.9	327.4	271.8	308.4	312.2	317.6	319.7	322.3	325.8	327.5	328.9
481 to 484	Paper industries	273.7	286.0	304.7	312.5	317.7	279.1	306.5	304.9	310.9	312.1	314.6	316.7	317.9	318.4
Order XX	Construction materials	242.5	258.2	271.5	284.0	293.8	248.4	272.1	274.5	279.5	284.8	287.7	290.3	294.1	297.1
Part of Order XX	House building materials	244.7	261.6	276.3	288.6	299.7	250.9	277.0	297.2	283.5	289.6	292.6	295.5	300.1	303.4

† Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising. * Includes petroleum products.

Table 1(a) Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by selected sectors of industry

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976			1977					
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jun	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
361	Electrical machinery industry	230.9	245 2	256.2	264.2	268.6	236.0	256.7	258.0	261.9	264.1	266.7	267.9	268.9	269.0
362	Insulated wires and cables industry	179.3	191.4	187.0	198.6	198.1	186.6	187.6	186.0	193.5	198.4	203.9	201.0	198.1	195.3
364	Radio and electronic components industry	224.6	237.1	248.4	259.5	267.0	228.8	249.2	250.7	255.9	259.4	263.2	265.7	267.3	267.9
368	Domestic appliances industry	222.3	234.4	246.3	255.0	260.3	227.4	246.9	248.5	252.4	254.4	257.2	259.1	260.7	261.1
369	Electrical goods industries n.e.s.	219.6	231.6	240.9	254.2	259.3	224.4	241.3	242.6	249.1	254.3	259.2	259.2	260.7	258.0
381	Motor vehicle industry	247.4	261.7	276.3	285.2	290.9	252.9	277.0	278.5	282.9	285.4	287.3	289.6	291.2	292.0
411	Man-made fibres industry	248.1	259.0	275.8	277.8	284.7	252.5	277.1	276.5	276.3	277.5	279.6	282.7	285.1	286.3
414	Woollen and worsted industry	282.9	302.2	338.4	333.3	315.9	291.3	340.6	336.7	340.4	336.2	323.2	318.4	315.3	314.0
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs industry	224.2	243.3	257.5	269.3	277.9	232.6	258.1	260.0	265.4	268.6	274.0	276.2	278.3	279.1
450	Footwear industry	214.7	222.9	231.6	239.3	245.6	218.3	232.2	232.8	236.2	240.2	241.6	244.7	245.9	246.2
481	Paper and board making industry	288.5	299.3	318.4	318.1	325.1	295.9	320.2	317.8	314.9	318.0	231.5	324.2	325.4	325.7

Table 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			197,		1976			1977					
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jun	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Orders III to XIX	Output of manufactured products	214.4	223.2	233.9	248.0	259.2	217.0	234.6	237.2	244.9	248.2	250.8	255.4	259.7	262.4
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	222.0	230.8	241.2	254.5	264.4	224.2	242.0	244.5	251.0	254.9	257.6	261.1	265.1	267.1
	Output of selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	222.2	233.8	252.2	267.3	282.9	224.8	252.5	255.8	263.9	267.1	270.9	276.4	283.5	288.7
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	220.5	230.2	247.3	262.5	279.0	222.3	247.5	250.4	259.3	262.2	266.1	272.0	279.9	285.2
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	213.7	221.0	228.8	239.7	248.7	216.0	228.8	231.5	237.8	239.5	241.7	246.0	248.5	251.5
Order VI	Metal manufacturing	240.6	259.1	271.8	283.8	286.6	246.8	272.4	273.2	280.5	283.8	287.2	286.9	286.8	286.2
311 and 312	Steel industries	260.3	281.8	300.2	311.0	313.1	266.4	301.2	301.4	309.5	310.8	312.7	313.1	313.0	313.2
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	217.7	226.6	236.3	248.1	258.4	220.2	237.0	239.0	244.1	248.4	251.7	254.6	259.4	261.2
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	226.1	235.4	244.5	255.7	264.4	228.4	244.7	247.0	252.6	255.5	259.0	262.2	264.5	266.6
Order VIII	Instrument engineering	190.9	196.7	203.7	211.6	217.4	191.5	203.5	206.7	210.1	211.7	213.1	215.6	218.2	218.4
Order IX	Electrical engineering	199.1	205.8	214.1	223.1	232.4	201.5	214.4	215.4	220.1	222.7	226.4	230.0 p	233.0	234.3
Order XI (excluding MLH 383)	Vehicles	236.8	247.6	260.0	277.1	293.7	240.0	262.1	265.0	268.9	279.9	282.6	285.1	297.1	298.9
Order XII	Metal goods industries n.e.s.	227.1	238.3	253.6	263.5	270.3	230.4	255.0	256.1	261.2	263.6	265.8	268.8	270.1	271.9
Order XIII	Textile industries	201.1	209.6	219.9	234.9	241.7	204.1	220.2	222.4	232.4	235.2	237.1	240.3	241.5	243.2
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	180.3	186.4	193.7	202.4	206.5	181.3	194.2	194.8	201.5	202.3	203.4	204.8	206.6	208.2
441 to 445 and 449	Made-up clothing	175.9	180.2	188.5	195.5	198.3	176.3	188.8	189.6	195.1	195.5	196.0	197.1	198.1	199.6
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc, industries	243.1	254.3	265.6	279.8	294.0	246.6	265.7	270.0	273.4	280.6	285.5	288.3	293.2	300.5
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	223.2	230.2	241.5	251.4	266.5	225.0	241.8	243.0	247.2	251.2	255.9	263.3	267.1	269.0
Order XVII	Timber industries	225.5	235.7	248.5	266.6	275.7	228.1	247.8	253.6	261.7	266.9	271.1	273.3	275.7	278.1
481 to 484	Paper industries	242.4	254.6	266.0	278.5	284.4	244.6	265.7	270.1	277.7	278.5	279.4	281.9	285.1	286.1
Order XX	New construction‡	246	264	281	291 p			281			291 p				

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (Department of Environment).

United Kingdom Mineral Statistics 1975

This review of all mineral statistics relating to the United Kingdom, is the third in a series produced annually by the Institute of Geological Sciences. It is an attempt to encompass in one source all the statistical information on production, trade and consumption of minerals and their derivatives collected by various government departments, and industrial and trade organisations. Data for England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and individual counties are featured, and the statistics – in metric units throughout – are illustrated by numerous diagrams.

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Table 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (as published monthly)

1970=100

1968 SIC		1976 Jun	1977 Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
	Mining and quarrying					
101	Coal	350.1	400.9	402.7	402.7	402.5
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	267.3	301.0	304.8	316.7	319.8
102/1	Granite and limestone roadstone	255.7	281.8	283.4	295.7	299.5
	Coated limestone roadstone	310.6	361.1	364.3	376.8	378.5
	Granite and other chippings	238.4	255.4	255.1	264.2	266.0
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction					
	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	233.7	276.4	276.4	297.1	310.6
	Sand and gravel – delivered	194.4	229.3	229.3	243.7	248.6
	Food, drink and tobacco					
240	Tobacco	168.9	190.6	205.9	208.8	213.8
	Coal and petroleum products					
261	Coke ovens and manufactured fuel Foundry coke	404.2	468.7	468.7	468.7	468.7
262	Mineral oil refining Petroleum products	378.9	475.5	478.4	497.6	497.6
	Motor spirit two star (including duty)ø	208.2	222.4	238.6	243.3	243.3
	Medium fuel oil (950-secs including duty)ø	346.4	464.2	489.5	505.4	505.4
	Derv fuel (including duty)ø	192.8	218.0	234.5	240.6	240.6
63	Lubricating oils and greases	238.1	281.6	281.2	282.4	283.9
	Chemicals and allied industries					
271	General chemicals	244.5	275.0	281.9	285.3	288.1
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)	238.0	269.1	272.4	274.0	278.9
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)	266.6	298.7	303.6	309.0	311.1
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Pharmaceutical chemicals	215.6 r	248.4	256.2	260.5	261.1
	Pharmaceutical preparations	191.2	210.6	215.7	218.2	220.8
273	Toilet preparations	187.5	212.2	214.4	216.7	222.5
274	Paint	222.8	250.7	253.3	256.9	261.8
276	Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber					
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	211.3	236.8	241.7 p	242.8	244.5
	Polyolefin moulding materials	231.3	247.2	247.4 p	247.4	249.3
	Polyvinyl chlorides	240.4	266.6	277.9	280.8	284.7
279	Other chemical industries					
279/3	Explosives, fireworks etc	247.2	277.9	279.1	279.1	279.1
	Metal manufacture					
311/2	Steel					
	Steel sheets	258.5	286.3	286.4	286.5	286.5
	Electrical steel sheets	236.7	296.9	296.9	297.0	297.0
	Stainless steel sheets	166.1	235.4	235.4	235.4	235.4
	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical)	276.0	295.2	295.4	295.5	295.5
	Galvanised steel sheets	270.7	289.9	290.0	290.2	290.2
	Tinplate	241.7	303.4	303.4	305.1	308.6
	Semi-finished steels	281.5	348.6	248.8	349.1	349.1
	Semi-finished steels for forgings (other than drop forgings)	286.0	363.3	363.6	364.0	364.0
	Semi-finished steels for alloy stainless products (except sheets and tubes)	244.8	303.1	303.4	303.8	303.8
	Semi-finished steels for drop-forgings and stampings	286.8	352.2	352.5	353.0	353.0
	Semi-finished steels for tubes	291.1	359.8	360.0	360.1	360.1
	Semi-finished steel for forgings (other than drop forgings) (using public sector indicators)	284.9	360.1	360.6	361.2	361.2
	Finished steels (other than sheets, tinplate, tubes, forgings and castings)	266.1	315.2	315.5	314.5	314.1
	Steel wire rods	257.3	319.7	319.8	319.9	319.9
	Heavy steel rails and fishplates	284.4	347.7	347.7	347.7	347.7
	Steel plates (alloy)	276.4 r	284.8	307.8	334.2	334.2
	Steel plates (non-alloy)	262.8	303.5	303.7	303.8	303.8
	Steel sheet piling	309.8	331.4	336.0	341.2	341.2
	Heavy steel bars and sections	298.5	332.4	332.9	333.4	333.4
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	264.2	333.6	333.9	323.3	320.1
	Hot rolled steel strip	289.3	356.9	357.0	357.1	357.1
	Bright steel bars (non-alloy)	264.0	315.7	315.7	315.7	315.7
	Cold rolled steel strip (non-alloy)	260.9 r	287.8	287.8	287.8	287.8
	Alloy steel bars and rods, black (excluding stainless)	231.2	279.1	279.2	279.2	279.2
	Finished stainless steels	203.3	256.1	256.1	256.2	256.2
	High speed tool and magnet steel	240.5	291.4	291.4	292.5	295.1
	Steel castings	240.5	285.5	285.5	290.6	292.1
	Carbon steel castings	240.5	293.5	293.5	295.8	297.9
	Stainless and heat resisting alloy steel castings	209.4	240.9	240.9	252.3	252.5
	Other alloy steel castings	268.9	308.7	308.7	314.3	315.6
	Structural steel	281.1	321.5	321.8	322.1	322.1
	Forgings (other than drop forgings)	337.7	389.8	391.8 p	392.1	392.8
312	Steel tubes					
	Steel tubes and fittings	283.8	337.5	337.5	337.8	337.9
	Steel tubes (other than electric conduit tubes)	285.6	340.8	340.8	340.8	340.8
	Non-alloy steel tubes, hot finished	301.0	363.1	363.1	363.1	363.1
	Pipe fittings	255.7	279.7	279.7	285.1	286.8
313	Iron castings etc	278.1	309.5	313.9	317.1	317.9
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	271.9	301.5	306.3	309.8	310.7
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	286.0	323.0	330.6	330.6	330.6
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Wrought aluminium	211.5 r	271.6	274.1	276.6	277.9
	Aluminium: Rolled	193.4 r	273.1	278.0	280.3	280.3
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	205.8 r	280.1	276.0	282.7	282.7
	Aluminium: Castings	236.7	272.3	278.8	279.4	283.6
	Aluminium: Forgings	213.4	242.6	242.6	242.6	242.6
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper tubes	165.0	174.9	175.1	166.9	166.9
	Brass ingots	172.0	177.0	171.5	170.6	166.5

Table 3(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1976	1977			
		Jun	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Mechanical engineering						
331	Agricultural machinery	228.6	277.6	281.9	284.2	285.9
	Soil preparation and cultivating machinery	234.3	275.0	282.1	282.2	284.3 e
	Harvesting, threshing, feed-processing machinery etc	233.1	288.3	290.0	292.1	294.1 e
	Pick-up balers	237.7	289.7	290.8	290.8	290.9 e
	Grinding mills and meal mixers	229.7	272.2	277.8	279.8	279.8 e
	Milking machines	216.6	264.2	272.7	272.7	272.7 e
	Other agricultural machinery (spraying machinery, general purpose elevators and conveyors etc)	217.8	254.3	262.6	272.6	273.5 e
332	Metal-working machine tools	247.9	281.2	285.0	288.4	290.1 e
332/1	Metal-cutting machine tools	251.8	283.2	287.5	290.8	291.0 e
332/2	Metal-forming machine tools	236.4	272.2	278.4	283.2	286.0 e
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	226.1	249.7	253.2 p	255.0	256.1
333/1	Pumps	211.2	236.3	241.9 p	242.3	242.7
	Kerbside petrol and oil measuring pumps	205.9	222.2	223.7	223.7	223.7 e
	Industrial pumps	211.5	237.1	243.0 p	243.4	243.9 e
	Centrifugal, turbine and axial flow pumps	213.7	242.6	246.8 p	247.5	248.2 e
333/2	Industrial valves	258.3	269.9	272.7 p	276.0	277.4 e
	Iron valves	256.0	279.8	280.8 p	287.0	289.1 e
	Steel valves	277.3	273.7	278.8 p	280.8	281.1 e
	Non-ferrous valves	235.7	256.0	257.7 p	260.1	262.1 e
333/3	Air and gas compressors	224.8	271.8	273.5	275.2	276.2 e
333/4	Fluid power equipment					
	Oil/hydraulic fluid power control equipment	208.8	233.7	237.6 p	238.5	240.5 e
	Pneumatic fluid power and control equipment	175.8	205.1	207.1	208.8	208.8 e
334	Stationary internal combustion engines and steam turbines	225.6	260.0	265.0	268.5	273.9
336	Construction and earth-moving equipment	230.8	274.4	278.5 p	282.7	284.3
	Contractors' plant and parts	228.9	274.1	278.0 p	282.5	284.2 e
	Excavators, trenchers, diggers, etc	247.3	306.0	313.9	313.9	316.1 e
	Concrete mixers	230.0	259.6	264.4 p	264.4	264.4 e
	Dumpers	227.0	262.0	262.5	265.6	265.6 e
	Crawler tractors	204.2	250.1	251.9	253.2	255.1 e
	Crushing and screening plant and parts	246.6	269.7	276.4 p	276.4	276.4 e
337	Mechanical handling equipment	220.1	250.4	254.2	255.7	258.4
337/2	Cranes	214.4	251.1	252.1	252.1	254.2
337/4	Lifting and winding devices	224.4	258.8	261.8	262.7	265.5
337/5	Powered industrial trucks and tractors	230.3	267.0	273.8	277.3	280.7
339/1	Mining machinery	202.9	224.1	228.6	228.7	230.7 e
339/3	Commercial and industrial refrigeration machinery	221.5	267.2	270.4	272.8	273.3
339/5	Scales and weighing machinery	239.3	264.8	264.8	273.1	273.6 e
339/6	Portable power tools	202.3	237.1	233.7	234.1	236.0 e
339/7	Food and drink processing machinery	215.8	248.4	258.5	258.8	263.5
339/8	Bottle washing, bottling, packaging, labelling and canning machinery	217.4	245.4	254.6	255.4	256.1
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	220.6	254.0	257.1 p	258.1	265.1 e
Instrument engineering						
352	Clocks, watches and time recorders	208.0	240.1 r	240.3	240.3	240.3
354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems	192.7	214.0	215.8 p	218.1	218.4 e
354/1	Optical instruments					
	Microscopes	193.4	216.2	216.2 p	216.2	216.2 e
354/2	Other scientific and industrial instruments					
	Process measuring and control instruments	197.7	223.6	223.7	225.5	226.2 e
	Analytical instruments	179.0	198.0	198.8 p	201.1	201.4 e
	Spectrophotometers and absorptiometers	150.5	164.6	164.6	167.2	167.2 e
	Electrical testing, measuring and control instruments	189.9	202.7	206.9	210.9	210.9 e
Electrical engineering						
365	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	146.9	161.0	164.7	165.7	166.0 e
365/1	Gramophone records and pre-recorded tapes	177.1	197.0	197.0	197.0	197.0 e
	Gramophone records	182.7	203.5	203.5	203.5	203.5 e
	Pre-recorded tapes – cassettes	180.6	199.7	199.7	199.7	199.7 e
	Pre-recorded tapes – cartridges	153.6	170.1	170.1	170.1	170.1 e
365/2	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	143.6	157.1	161.2	162.4	162.6 e
	Domestic television receivers†	144.3	159.8	164.7	166.4	166.4 e
	Domestic television re-receivers – colour†	131.7	145.1	148.8	148.9	149.1 e
	Domestic television receivers – monochrome†	148.0	164.0	169.3	171.4	171.4 e
	Record players and tape recorders	141.6	150.9	154.2	154.1	154.3 e
368	Domestic electrical appliances	178.2	208.7	214.3 p	216.1	216.2
	Domestic electrical cooking appliances	184.5	217.4	221.6	225.3	225.8 e
	Electric cookers	183.8	216.5	222.4	226.5	227.0 e
	Domestic electrical heating appliances	195.4	217.9	226.9	229.8	229.8 e
	Electric fires	191.6	218.7	230.7	237.4	237.4 e
	Electric water heaters, wash boilers, etc	241.9	273.7	278.3	278.3	278.3 e
	Electric vacuum cleaners and polishers	180.8	227.3	227.3	227.3	227.3 e
	Domestic electric flat irons	200.6	244.3	245.2	247.0	247.0 e
	Domestic refrigerators, gas and electric	172.0	197.7	204.6	206.8	206.8 e
	Domestic electric refrigerators	174.0	205.4	215.1	218.2	218.2 e
369/2 and 369/3	Batteries and accumulators	229.1	262.1	276.4	276.4	277.3 e
369/4	Electric lamps and fluorescent tubes	192.6	218.1	218.1	227.1	229.7 e

Table 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1976	1977			
		Jun	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Vehicles						
380	Wheeled tractors	290.2	342.1	346.1	362.8	365.8
381	Motor vehicles					
	Passenger cars	232.3	274.4	276.3	291.3	293.2 e
	Passenger cars‡	211.8	250.2	251.9	265.6	267.3 e
	Commercial and public service vehicles	254.0	300.3	302.5	316.6	317.9 e
	Commercial vehicles	255.9	303.1	305.4	320.1	321.3 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis not exceeding 3.5 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	254.1	302.3	304.3	320.4	321.5 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 3.5 tons but not exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	266.5	312.2	314.6	327.4	329.1 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	237.0	278.9	284.0	291.7	291.7 e
	Commercial vehicles not exceeding 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	255.6	303.2	305.0	324.2	326.1 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis over 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	254.0	299.1	302.3	314.0	314.6 e
	Public service vehicles	255.2	295.0	297.2	305.1	308.1 e
Metal goods not elsewhere specified						
390	Engineers' small tools and gauges					
	Engineers' cutting tools	195.2	229.9	237.3	244.1	245.5
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	167.3	191.6	191.6	199.4	201.7
	Engineers' cutting tools and parts: non-diamond	197.3	231.6	239.7	246.2	247.3
	Hacksaw blades	194.3	250.2	255.4	265.5	270.7
391	Hand tools and implements	237.2	283.1	292.2	296.1	300.6
392	Cuttlery and tableware, etc	220.5	252.5	256.6	256.6	259.2●
393	Nuts and bolts, etc	276.8	330.1	330.1	331.4	334.0
	High tensile steel nuts and bolts	294.7	348.4	348.4	349.5	352.3
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture, office and works equipment	206.4	234.1	234.7	236.9	237.9
	Metal non-domestic furniture	214.5	244.0	244.9	246.1	247.3
	Metal chairs	191.3	207.1	211.2	213.3	213.3
	Metal cabinets	207.8	235.5	235.5	239.2	242.4
399/2	Metal windows and door frames					
	Metal windows and curtain walling	330.7	400.4	403.0	405.8	409.5
399/9	Domestic gas appliances	198.0	210.5	212.3	213.1	218.2
	Gas cookers	179.5	211.1	211.1	211.6	219.8
	Gas water heaters and wash boilers	194.7	233.5	238.8	238.8	238.8
	Gas fires and space heaters	174.9	200.1	203.8	205.4	206.6
	Gas water heaters and gas fires	180.4	209.3	213.5	214.6	215.5
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Catering equipment	205.2	235.1	241.9	242.0	242.0
	Plumbers' brassware	194.0	214.3	215.4	215.4	215.4
	Domestic oil burning appliances	227.0	259.8	265.1	274.3	274.3
Textiles						
411	Man-made fibres production	174.3	193.4	196.2	196.4	196.7
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	224.0	246.1	247.0 p	247.7	248.5
	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	255.0	279.8	281.5 p	282.4	283.1
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	220.1	252.1	255.6	257.3	258.1
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	229.8	267.2	269.5	272.6	273.6
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	210.1	232.0	236.6	236.6	237.3
414	Woollen and worsted	235.1	282.0	282.6	286.6	287.3
414/2	Worsted spinning	222.4	267.7	265.7	274.2	275.7
	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	231.5	286.6	285.6	296.4	295.4
	Yarns of man-made fibres spun on the worsted system	188.6	205.7	201.7	206.0	213.6
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	167.6	193.9	196.1	196.4	199.8
419	Carpets and rugs	209.6	241.5	248.3	248.7	248.7
	Carpets	209.3	240.9	247.9	248.4	248.4 e
	Carpets – woven	229.9	265.7	275.5	276.3	276.3 e
	Tufted carpets	168.7	192.0	193.3	193.2	193.2 e
429	Other textile industries					
429/1	Asbestos manufactures	200.4	241.9	242.1	244.9	245.0
Leather, leather goods and fur						
431/1	Leather for footwear	205.9	215.7	218.2	218.2	218.3
Clothing and footwear						
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	193.0	222.8	224.3	228.2	230.5
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc						
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	249.3	295.0	298.2	304.9	313.8
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	257.0	309.1	313.7	313.7	324.9
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks	245.7	288.4	291.0	300.8	308.6
	Building bricks – delivered	255.7	296.8	300.1	311.8	313.8
	Engineering bricks – delivered	280.2	319.3	320.7	324.6	325.9
463	Glass	226.8	260.5	268.8	273.1	275.0
463/1	Glass other than containers	222.1	254.4	258.9	266.1	269.3
	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	220.9	248.4	255.7	261.8	263.9
	Glazing sheet and plate glass	197.8	232.8	244.7	246.1	246.1
463/2	Glass containers	233.8	269.5	283.6	283.6	283.6
464	Cement	249.9	280.6	280.6	280.6	305.6
	Cement – delivered in bulk	249.9	280.6	280.6	280.6	305.5
	Cement – delivered in bags	249.9	280.7	280.7	280.7	305.6
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified	248.0 r	285.6	287.8	292.5	298.3
	Precast concrete products	234.9	271.1	272.0	274.9	279.7
	Precast concrete pipes – delivered	266.5	319.6	322.1	328.6	335.5
	Precast concrete manholes – delivered	217.0	248.6	250.7	255.7	260.8
	Plaster gypsum	228.1	243.9	258.0	265.0	265.0
	Mastic asphalt	210.3	266.2	280.9	283.3	283.3
Timber, furniture, etc						
471/1	Timber sawmilling					
	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	239.6	280.3	284.6	286.0	289.2
471/2	Building joinery	262.0	319.8	322.5	322.8	323.7
	Timber structures and structural components	271.5	319.4	319.9	320.4	321.4
	Door sets, doors and door frames (excluding hardwood doors architecturally designed)	257.5	328.0	330.9	331.4	331.4
	Windows and window frames (wood)	282.9	343.1	353.2	353.2	356.1
	Other building joinery (ie architectural and general joinery)	264.4	333.3	333.3	333.3	333.3

Table (3a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1976 Jun	1977 Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
472	Furniture and upholstery	207.6	240.8	243.7	245.6	250.1
	Domestic furniture	204.0	235.8	239.0	241.2	246.3
	Non-upholstered furniture – domestic	209.7	246.0	250.5	253.8	259.2
	Bedroom furniture	189.0	213.9	215.3	216.7	219.3 e
	Bookcases, bookshelves, bureaux, occasional furniture	205.3	242.4	244.0	244.4	252.0
	Dining room furniture	211.9	245.4	246.9	247.3	257.3
	Kitchen furniture	224.7	271.1	280.5	287.5	293.3
	Upholstered furniture	194.7	219.2	220.1	220.6	225.2
	Two and three-piece suites	186.4	208.2	209.6	209.8	210.8
	Fireside chairs – open wood arm easy chairs	216.3	247.1	247.1	248.8	265.2
473	Bedding, etc	225.4	272.7	272.7	275.7	278.0
	Upholstered spring interior mattresses	231.0	278.5	278.5	282.9	283.4 e
	Divan sets	250.0	292.8	292.8	295.8	300.9
	Paper, printing and publishing					
481	Paper and board	240.0	284.4	288.1	289.6	289.6
	Printings and writings – excluding newsprint	235.3	285.8	285.8	285.8	285.8
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials					
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard	244.9	274.7	276.7	282.4	284.1
482/2	Packaging products of paper and associated materials					
483	Manufactured stationery	245.7	289.7	290.7	292.1	293.3
484	Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified					
484/1	Wallpaper	225.1	240.9	244.3	244.3	244.3
489	Other printing, publishing, bookbinding, etc					
	General printing, bookbinding, etc	209.7	228.0	228.1	232.2	234.4
	Other manufacturing industries					
491	Rubber manufactures					
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	201.2	236.1	243.1	243.3	243.6
492	Linoleum, plastics, floor covering and leathercloth					
	Linoleum and felt base	210.6	226.3	226.3	226.3	226.3 e
102/1 and 103	Part Aggregates for concrete	217.0	232.7	233.4	250.2	253.9
312, 361/2, 362, 369/5	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	204.5	236.9	239.4 p	239.9	241.5 e
338, 399/1, 399/3, 472	Part Office equipment and machinery	189.0	214.8	217.9	218.8	220.6
399/1 472	Part Office furniture	232.9	269.4	269.9	270.7	271.7
412 414	Part All spun man-made fibres yarns	200.7	219.7	221.9 p	228.8	231.6

Revisions to table 3(a)

1968 SIC		Year	Jan	Feb	Oct	Nov	Dec
333/1	Pumps	1976	—	—	224.9	225.4	226.7
	Industrial pumps	1976	—	—	225.9	226.4	227.8
337/4	Lifting and winding devices	1977	252.9	258.1	—	—	—

Addendum to table 3(a) Confirmation of figures previously published as provisional

1968 SIC		1976 Nov	Dec	1977 Jan	Feb
332	Metal-working machine tools	—	—	275.4	278.4
332/1	Metal-cutting machine tools	—	—	278.3	281.9
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	—	—	242.3	244.7
333/1	Pumps	—	—	232.0	235.6
	Industrial pumps	—	—	231.8	236.6
	Centrifugal, turbine and axial flow pumps	—	—	234.7	241.8
333/4	Oil/hydraulic fluid power equipment	—	—	—	232.6
337	Mechanical handling equipment	—	—	244.2	246.5
337/5	Powered industrial trucks and tractors	—	—	261.1	262.7
339/3	Commercial and industrial refrigeration machinery	—	—	—	252.0
339/7	Food and drink processing machinery	—	—	246.4	247.9
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	238.9	242.7	248.3	151.8
365	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	—	—	160.1	160.9
365/2	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	—	—	156.1	156.9
	Domestic television receivers†	—	—	158.9	159.6
	Domestic television receivers – colour†	—	—	144.2	144.4
	Domestic television receivers – monochrome†	—	—	163.1	164.0
	Record players and tape recorders	—	—	149.9	150.5

ø Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons (motor spirit 1000 gallons) exclusive of rebates.
p Provisional.
e Estimates which are subject to possible major revisions.
† Excludes sales to rental companies.
‡ Inclusive of purchase tax (before its abolition), VAT and car tax.
r Revised.

Wholesale price indices: further information

Correspondence: Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Economics and Statistics Division 4, Room 249, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB

01-215 3544 tables 1 and 2
01-215 3549 engineering
01-215 5216 chemicals, steel, building materials, etc
01-215 3548 textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc
01-215 3173 imported commodities

Table 3(b) Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (as published monthly) 1970 = 100

	1976	1977			
	Jun	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Hides and skins	311.1	385.4	398.7	387.1	324.4
Non ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	178.2	246.2	246.2	246.2	248.8
Copper‡	148.8	149.3	140.9	135.3	129.3
Lead‡	212.9	328.3	297.4	303.4	260.1
Nickel§	228.4	261.5	259.9	259.8	259.8
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	288.1	400.4	361.5	374.1	366.1
Zinc‡	344.3	343.7	308.9	289.0	255.7
Zinc§	352.3	361.8	361.4	357.0	318.3
Natural rubber	287.6	283.0	273.4	269.1	257.1
Sulphur crude, cif (for acid making)	297.1	297.2	297.2	297.2	297.2
Textiles:					
Raw cotton, all types	367.6	404.4	400.4	387.7	345.3
American types, cif Liverpool	378.9	416.3	413.0	398.2	347.7
Egyptian types, cif Liverpool	310.9	345.2	337.8	335.5	333.0

	1976	1977			
	Jun	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p
Raw wool – all types	301.2	354.0	350.4	338.6	333.1
Imported	299.8	343.8	339.5	331.4	330.5
Imported, merino	278.5	313.7	312.4	308.3	308.0
Imported, fine crossbred	296.5	341.8	333.7	327.8	325.7
Imported, medium and coarse crossbred	374.5	439.3	431.5	412.8	412.0
British types	309.1	411.1	412.0	379.5	347.5
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	294.2	347.4	357.0	360.0	362.6 e
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	275.9	326.2	328.4	330.7	331.7 e
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	315.5	385.3	386.7	388.2	389.1 e
Woodpulp, imported	337.3	351.9	349.4	349.5	348.3

‡ LME settlement price. § Producer's price. p Provisional. e Estimates which are subject to possible major revision.

Table 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices(1)

1970 = 100

	Primary commodties						Non-ferrous metals			Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals (2)		
	Total			Agricultural non-food								
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1974 1st quarter	303	318	274	232	244	209	160	168	144	284	298	256
2nd quarter	304	304	263	229	229	198	183	183	159	288	287	249
3rd quarter	309	315	274	221	225	196	142	145	126	287	292	254
4th quarter	320	330	284	212	213	186	126	130	111	294	303	258
1975 1st quarter	312	313	261	201	202	168	124	124	101	287	287	240
2nd quarter	299	309	250	198	204	166	121	125	101	275	284	230
3rd quarter	295	333	261	196	220	173	118	133	105	271	306	240
4th quarter	301	354	271	191	224	172	116	136	104	276	324	249
1976 1st quarter	306	368	279	202	243	184	120	144	109	281	338	256
2nd quarter	310	412	289	212	282	198	135	179	126	286	381	267
3rd quarter	314	427	291	228	310	212	140	190	130	291	395	270
4th quarter	315	458	289	232	337	213	131	190	120	290	422	267
1977 1st quarter (3)	340	476	311	242	339	221	141	197	129	313	439	285
2nd quarter (4)	*353*	*493*	*318*	*250*	*348*	*225*	*144*	*201*	*130*	*325*	*454*	*293*

(1) Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates. (2) This combined index is not published as such by the UN. (3) Provisional. (4) Projections by Department of Industry.

Index of retail prices for June

The index of retail prices for all items for 14 June 1977 was 183.6 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 1.0 per cent on May 1977 (181.7) and of 17.7 per cent on June 1976 (156.0).

The rise in the index in June was due mainly to increases in the prices of fresh milk, fruit, new potatoes, tea and other foods; to increases in the prices of cigarettes, tobacco and second-hand cars; and to increases in average charges for gas and electricity.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in table 2.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext 630.

Table 1 Index of retail prices

	All items				All items except seasonal foods		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months	12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months
1977							
January	172.4	+2.6	+10.3	+16.6	170.9	+2.5	+9.0
February	174.1	+1.0	+9.8	+16.2	172.5	+0.9	+8.8
March	175.8	+1.0	+9.5	+16.7	174.3	+1.0	+8.9
April	180.3	+2.6	+10.3	+17.5	178.7	+2.5	+9.8
May	181.7	+0.8	+9.6	+17.1	180.5	+1.0	+9.5
June	183.6	+1.0	+9.3	+17.7	182.4	+1.1	+9.4

Table 2 Index of retail prices: commodity breakdown

	Indices (15 January 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over month
	17 May 1977	14 June 1977	
All items	181.7	183.6	+1.0
All items excluding food	179.3	180.8	+0.8
Food	189.9	193.7	+2.0
Seasonal food	213.7	219.4	+2.7
Other food	185.4	189.0	+1.9
Alcoholic drink	183.9	184.0	+0.1
Tobacco	206.5	216.1	+4.6
Housing	164.3	164.3	+0.0
Fuel and light	210.4	214.5	+1.9
Durable household goods	165.2	166.0	+0.5
Clothing and footwear	154.6	155.7	+0.7
Transport and vehicles	192.2	193.2	+0.5
Miscellaneous goods	187.2	187.8	+0.3
Services	171.9	173.3	+0.8
Meals out	182.0	184.0	+1.1

Retail sales: provisional estimate for June

Volume

The provisional estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in June is 104½ (1971 = 100), similar to that of May. The estimate suggests that trade in May and June recovered a little from the level of March and April but remained below that of the beginning of 1977. In the second quarter the volume of total trade was 1 per cent lower than in the previous quarter.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the provisional estimate of the value of total retail sales in June was 15 per cent higher than in June 1976. In the first half of 1977, the average value of sales was 14 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1976.

Retail sales: volume and value

	Volume seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Value not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier
1976		**1976**	
1st qtr	107.3	1st qtr	+15
2nd qtr	107.6	2nd qtr	+12
3rd qtr	108.9	3rd qtr	+15
4th qtr	108.5	4th qtr	+16
1977		**1977**	
1st qtr	105.0	1st qtr	+14
2nd qtr	104.1 (prov)	2nd qtr	+14 (prov)
1976		**1976**	
March	105.4	March	+13
April	108.8	April	+6
May	106.8	May	+16
June	107.3	June	+13
1977		**1977**	
March	103.1	March	+14
April	103.4	April	+12
May	104.4	May	+14
June	104½ (prov)	June	+15 (prov)

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest half per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimate was published in *Trade and Industry*, 21 February 1974.

Estimates are based on early returns to the monthly inquiry. These returns now cover approaching one half, by turnover, of information available at the final stage. Past evidence suggests that the average error (ignoring sign) in the provisional estimates will be about 0.5 per cent. However, as with all estimates based on partial data, caution must be exercised in interpreting a single month's figure.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments for the timing of holidays (including the extra jubilee bank holiday) and adjustments to make allowance for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. No adjustments are made to the non-seasonally adjusted data.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for June will be published in a press notice on Monday, 8 August 1977.

Inquiries: 01-215 3705.

Manufacturers' stocks in April

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks showed no change at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in April. Indications are of rises in stocks of materials and fuel and finished goods, offset by a fall in work in progress.

Monthly figurers from January 1976 adjusted to agree with the quarterly figures published in *Trade and Industry* on 8 July are shown below:

£ million

	1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1976	
January	+40
February	no change
March	−10
April	−90
May	+40
June	−60
July	−50
August	+20
September	+30
October	+10
November	+10
December	+60
1977	
January	+20
February	+70
March	+90
April	no change

Inquiries: 01-215 3176/5215.

Carpet industry sales in April

The daily rate of carpet manufacturers' sales by value in April 1977 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 12 per cent more than in April 1976 assuming 19 working days in April 1977 and 20 working days in April 1976. In the three months ended April 1977 the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 15 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago, assuming 62 working days in the period ended April 1977 and 63 working days in the period ended April 1976. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The wholesale price index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017.

1970 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969	93	96.6
1970	100	100.0
1971	115	104.9
1972	135	111.7
1973	166	130.2
1974	179	153.1
1975	202	177.8
1976	234	211.3
1976		
1st qtr	220	200.2
2nd qtr	224	206.6
3rd qtr	210	214.5
4th qtr	283	224.0
1977		
1st qtr	260	239.3
1976		
January	204	197.7
February	227	201.1
March	229	201.7
April	224	202.0
1977		
January	245	237.3
February	265	239.2
March	269	241.5
April	251	248.3 p

p = provisional.

Regional selective assistance

The table shows on a regional basis the number and value of applications received and offers made under section 7 of the Industry Act during March 1977, and for the financial year 1 April to 31 March 1977.

Inquiries: 01-211 4216.

Region	Applications received		Offers made	
	No.	Value (£000)	No.	Value (£000)
MARCH 1977				
Scotland	25	10 500	12	364
Wales	18	3 200	7	71
Northern	26	4 950	13	2 380
North West	48	15 600	32	1 178
Yorkshire and Humberside	19	4 800	15	404
South West	5	250	1	74
East Midlands	6	1 070	4	28
West Midlands	—	—	—	—
Total	147	40 370	84	4 499
1 APRIL TO 31 MARCH 1977				
Scotland	194	73 131	180	24 677
Wales	172	36 413	88	11 469
Northern	237	54 509	141	17 752
North West	337	85 953	236	22 266
Yorkshire and Humberside	259	45 202	178	8 428
South West	60	9 024	40	4 349
East Midlands	73	7 702	65	1 107
West Midlands	1	100	1	24
Total	1 333	312 034	939	90 072

New companies registered in June

Details of new companies registered in Great Britain in June 1977 showing nominal capital are shown in the table. Figures exclude unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee. **Inquiries:** Cardiff (0222) 388588 ext 2226.

Nominal capital	Total	Public Companies	Private Companies
Not exceeding £100	2 607	—	2 607
Over £100 but under £1 000	52	—	52
£1 000 but under £10 000	913	—	913
£10 000 but under £50 000	425	—	425
£50 000 but under £100 000	76	—	76
£100 000 but under £1 000 000	88	—	88
£1 000 000 and over	8	—	8
Total number	4 169	—	4 169
	£ thous	£ thous	£ thous
Total amount of nominal capital	61 951	—	61 951

Companies registered in 1976 and 1977

	1976		1977	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous	Number	Nominal capital £ thous
January	3 476	21 780	3 225	30 825
February	4 088	19 228	4 330	34 505
March	6 190	41 680	5 843	49 266
April	4 150	22 354	5 499	41 860
May	4 343	25 095	4 097	27 086
June	5 624	25 815	4 169	61 951
July	4 954	58 659		
August	4 221	44 690		
September	4 377	25 342		
October	4 600	34 544		
November	4 667	60 549		
December	4 655	147 053		
Total	55 345	526 789		

Cinema admissions and takings in April

During April, counted as a four-week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 2.02 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings was £1.65 million. The comparable figures for April 1976 were 2.20 million and £1.59 million.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 15 July 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Movietone News 2510	BR/E 39177/17/7/82	8	15 July	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
Emanuelle in America	EC 39244/17/7/82	87	13 July	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd	New Film Production SrL, Rome
Confessions of a Nymphomaniac	EC 39245/17/7/82	84	13 July	Watchgrove Ltd	Brummer-Film Produktion, Munich
FOREIGN					
Three Women	F 39243	123	12 July	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Co Ltd	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, California
Orca (Killer Whale)	F 39246	95	13 July	EMI Films Ltd	Dino de Laurentiis Corporation, California

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly

Air transport: trade by air (a) 1 Jul 77
Balance of payments
current account (m) This week
trends in invisibles 29 Apr 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Business names and limited partnerships (a) 18 Feb 77
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (q) 8 Jul 77
by regions 18 Feb 77
Catering trades turnover (q) 20 May 77
Census of production (a) 28 Jan 77
Chemicals industry activity (q) 1 Jul 77
Companies
acquisitions and mergers (q) 13 May 77
insolvencies 6 May 77
liquidity (q) 10 Jun 77
new registrations:
Gt. Britain (m) This week
N. Ireland (q) 24 Jun 77
rate of return on capital (a) 8 Oct 76
structure of company financing 4 Feb 77
Construction work overseas (a) 15 Oct 76
EEC economic indicators *see* Foreign trade
Energy trends (m) 15 Jul 77
Engineering industries: sales and orders (m) This week
Film industry
British Film Fund Agency returns (m) 8 Jul 77
cinema admissions and takings (m) This week
exhibitors quota returns (a) 6 May 77
overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
registrations of films (a) 4 Feb 77
Food
consumption levels (6m) 25 Mar 77
household consumption (q) 1 Jul 77
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (m) This week
Foreign exchange: official reserves (m) 8 Jul 77
Foreign trade: industrial countries' economic indicators (m) 1 Jul 77
quarterly analysis 3 Jun 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Hire-purchase business (m) 8 Jul 77
Industrial production
index numbers (m) 8 Jul 77
Scotland (q) 17 Jun 77
Wales (q) 27 May 77
Insurance companies: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
Investment
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years) 25 Feb 77
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year) 10 Jun 77
investment and earnings overseas (a) 25 Jun 76
Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (m) This week
Man-made fibres
deliveries (q) 10 Jun 77
production (m) 15 Jul 77
production: quarterly analysis (q) 10 Jun 77
Metal-working machine tools (m) 1 Jul 77
Motor industry
car and commercial vehicle production (m) 1 Jul 77
estimated figures (m) 15 Jul 77
motor trade turnover (q) 27 May 77
Office development permits (q) 27 May 77
Overseas trade of the UK
direct exporters and credit terms (a) 16 Jul 76
analysis of trends (q) 3 Jun 77
backrun (a) 11 Mar 77
export prospects (q) 17 June 77
invoicing in foreign currencies 22 Apr 77
see also Balance of payments
Pension funds: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
Regional development grants (q) 13 May 77
Research and development expenditure 24 Jun 77 and 1 Jul 77
Retail prices index (m) This week
Retail trades
sales (m) 8 Jul 77
provisional figures (m) This week
sales, N. Ireland 25 Feb 77
stocks (m) 15 Jul 77
Royalties: overseas transactions (a) 25 Jun 76
Selective assistance
section 7 (m) This week
section 7 £10,000 or more (q) 15 Jul 77
section 8 (q) 24 Jun 77
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (a) 9 Jul 76
Steel: consumption and stocks (q) 1 Apr 77
Stocks
manufacturers' and distributors' (q) 8 Jul 77
manufacturers' (m) This week
retail (m) 15 Jul 77
Television: overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
Textiles
activity in the industry (q) 1 Jul 77
carpet sales (m) This week
cotton industry production (m) This week
hosiery production (m) 10 Jun 77
wholesale houses' sales and stocks (m) 15 Jul 77
wool exports (q) 17 Jun 77
wool output (m) This week
Tourism
foreign visitor arrivals (m) 8 Apr 77
overseas travel and tourism (q) 29 Apr 77
Wholesale prices
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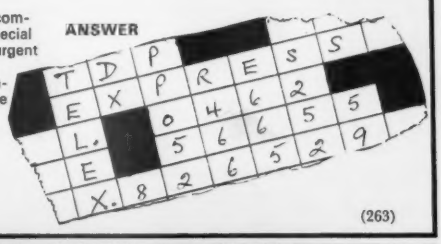

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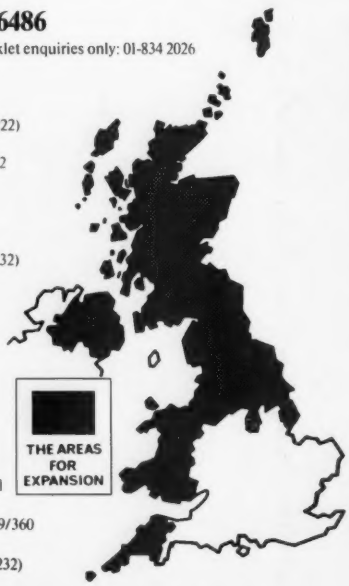

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